

M E D I C A L
A N D
P H I L O S O P H I C A L
C O M M E N T A R I E S.

By a SOCIETY in EDINBURGH.

Attamen errores non sunt artis sed artificum.

NEWTON.

VOLUME SIXTH.

PART IV.

L O N D O N:

Printed for J. MURRAY, No. 32. Fleet-street;

M. DRUMMOND, J. BELL, W. CREECH,

and C. ELLIOT, *Edinburgh*;

M,DCC,LXXIX.

THE

OF

THE

OF

OF

OF

OF

OF

OF

OF

OF

OF

M E D I C A L C O M M E N T A R I E S.

S E C T. I.

An Account of Books.

I.

Dissertatio Medica Inauguralis de Quassia, et Lichene Islandico. Auctore Joh. Theod. Phil. Christ. Ebeling. 8vo. Glasguæ.

IN the first part of this dissertation, our author, before proceeding to the enumeration of such disorders as quassia is proper for, gives first an accurate description of the plant, and afterwards proceeds to ascertain experimentally its several qualities, as will appear from the following detail.

VOL. VI. No. 24.

C c 2

EX.

E X P E R I M E N T I.

A comparative trial was made with quassia, cursuta or gentiana lutea sylvestris, colomba, colocynthis, cortex Peruvianus, lichen Islandicus, and gentiana lutea vulgaris, in order to determine the degree of bitterness of each; and the following, we are told, is the order in which, with respect to this quality, they ought stand.

Cortex Peruvianus, lichen Islandicus, gentiana, colomba, quassia, colocynthis, cursuta; but although cursuta was evidently more bitter than quassia, yet the bitterness of the latter was of a much more agreeable nature than that of cursuta.

E X P E R. II.

A solution of salt of steel; being added both to the decoction and infusion of quassia, no change of colour was perceived in either; nor was any additional firmness given to a piece of flesh immersed in them for the space of several days. These, our author observes, are evident proofs that quassia possesses little or no astringency.

E X.

EXPER. III.

In this experiment, trials were made for the discovery of the best menstruum for quassia. A cold infusion in water, especially when assisted by trituration, was found to possess a greater degree of bitterness, than either the warm infusion, or even the decoction. It was likewise found, that this bitterness of quassia, was readily communicated to spirits, both proof and rectified; to the different kinds of wines, and to vinegar.

EXPER. IV.

An infusion of quassia and water being distilled; the water which came over, was found to be somewhat bitter, and was of a yellowish colour; but there was not the least appearance of any essential oil.

An ounce of quassia frequently boiled in water, afforded only one dram of extract, of a brown iron colour.

EXPER. V.

In order to determine the antiseptic virtues of quassia, a comparative trial was made with it and several other articles. A quantity of

C c 3

blood

blood was added to similar quantities of the cold watery infusions of the following articles, all contained in separate phials placed in the same degree of heat; viz. quassia, lichen Islandicus, cursuta, salix, gentiana, and cortex Peruvianus.

As they are here mentioned in order, according to the antiseptic effects they are exhibited, quassia it would appear is not possessed of much influence in preserving other bodies from putrescency. And from this experiment too, it is evident, our author remarks, that the antiseptic powers of plants, neither depends upon the degrees of bitterness or of astringency possessed by them; for here, the cursuta, and willow, were both found less antiseptic than Peruvian bark, although the one is much more bitter, and the other remarkably more astringent than it.

In another experiment, however, it was found, that *bile*, was preserved longer from putrefaction both by lichen Islandicus, and cursuta, than even by Peruvian bark itself, which makes our author conclude, that the antiseptic powers of plants with respect to bile, must probably in some measure depend upon their degree of bitterness.

Our

Our author now proceeds to enumerate the opinions of Linnæus and other writers with respect to the medical virtues of quaffia, in fevers and other diseases, but as he does not here advance any thing new from his own proper experience, we must refer our readers, for the opinions of the authors to their several works.

De Lichene Islandico.

As descriptions of the lichen Islandicus are to be met with in Ray, Morison, Hudson, and Lightfoot, as well as in the works of Linnæus and other foreign writers, we need not here trouble our readers with any account of its botanical history, and shall proceed immediately to our author's experiment upon this article also.

EXPER. I.

This experiment was instituted with a view to determine the degree of astringency possessed by the lichen Islandicus.

A drachm of Jesuit's bark in powder, of the bark of willow, of the lichen Islandicus, of the gum rivale, of bohea tea, and of the eglantine rose-leaves, were each infused in

three ounces of cold water. In the space of twenty-four hours the infusion of geum rivale was of a chesnut colour; that of the tea had a yellowish hue, as had likewise the infusion of rose-leaves. The infusion of bark was yellow, that of willow somewhat less so; and the water with the lichen Islandicus was of a violet colour with somewhat of a yellow tinge.

To an ounce of each of the infusions, two drachms of a solution of salt of steel were added. That of geum rivale was converted into a real ink; that of roses into a dark red; that of tea into a dark green; that of Peruvian bark into a brassy colour; the infusion of willow bark became of a pale blue colour, and the lichen Islandicus from a violet was changed into a red.

To the other two ounces of infusion, of each of these articles, a drachm of beef was added, and allowed to remain in them for the space of forty-eight hours. At the end of that time, the beef contained in the infusion of lichen Islandicus was found to be firmer than any of the rest; next in point of firmness was that immersed in the infusion of bark; and the piece taken from the infusion of tea, was found to be the softest of all.

EX.

EXPER. II.

An ounce of lichen Islandicus being boiled for the space of a quarter of an hour in a pound of water, and afterwards strained, was found to yield seven ounces of a bitter, red-coloured mucilage, of nearly the same consistence as is obtained by the solution of one part of gum arabic in three of water. This mucilage was found to answer very effectually the purpose of uniting oil with water by means of trituration: a scruple of camphor was likewise suspended in six ounces of water by the medium of two drachms of the mucilage; but mercury could neither be properly extinguished by it, nor could wax by means of it be united with water,

EXPER. III.

This species of lichen is so tough and mucilaginous, that a very considerable heat is found necessary to dry it sufficiently for pulverisation.

An infusion of the powder, and likewise an infusion of lichen in substance, were at different times subjected to distillation in a sand heat. The water thus obtained was moderately

rately acid ; but was not in any degree changed in colour by the addition of salt of steel. No essential oil could be obtained by distillation.

E X P E R. IV.

An ounce of lichen being six times strongly boiled, and the different decoctions being all mixed and evaporated to dryness, five drachms and two scruple of an extract was obtained. This extract was of a blackish colour ; burned violently when put into a fire ; and when dissolved in warm water afforded a very thick tough mucilage.

Lichen infused in rectified spirits of wine, afforded, on evaporation, a very small quantity of resin.

From the antiseptic virtues of lichen, our author recommends the mucilage prepared from it, as more proper than any other, for the purpose of combining oils with watery liquids ; By means of it, such mixtures, he observes, are effectually prevented from becoming rancid ; he preserved some of those, with which the preceding experiments were made, for the space of fourteen weeks without any marks of putrescency being observed in them.

In

In some of the northern kingdoms, lichen, we are told, is used not only as a medicine, but as an article of diet; and from the mild nutritive qualities of which it is evidently possessed, our author thinks we may account for the good effects which have lately been said to be derived from it in consumptive disorders, and which have been confirmed by the testimony of many of the most accurate observers.

As the most agreeable and convenient form of using it, he recommends it first to be infused in boiling water, with a view to its being thoroughly cleaned, while by the same means it will be deprived of a considerable part of its original bitterness. The lichen, thus prepared, is ordered to be boiled, and the mucilage so obtained from it, to be used either as an article of diet or as a medicine; and we have it in our power, we are told, to render it exceedingly palatable, by the addition of a little white wine, when that can with propriety be given; or when wine is not admissible, by the addition either of milk, honey, or syrup of lemons.

It is recommended particularly, in all kinds of cough; and in cases of emaciation, from whatever cause they may have arisen.

II. Ob-

II.

Observations on the Blood, by William Hey, F. R. S. Surgeon-General to the Infirmary at Leeds, and Member of the Incorporation of Surgeons in London. 8vo. London.

OF all the constituent parts of the human body, there is, perhaps, no one which can be considered as meriting greater attention than the blood. Yet, even from the most superficial examination of the works of medical writers, every one must soon be sensible of the inattention with which they have treated this subject. In proof of this, Mr. Hey, in the treatise before us, has quoted some passages from the writings of Baron Van Sweiten, Dr. William Fordyce, and others, which contain assertions totally repugnant to fact. When this then is the case, we may conclude, that the subject of which our author here proposes to treat, is by no means exhausted, from the observations of former writers. But it seems not so much to be his intention in the treatise before us, to enter into a full consideration of every particular respecting the nature of the blood, as to examine the sentiments of some of the most highly esteemed and latest writers

writers on the subject, particularly those of Mr. Hewson, in his *Experimental Inquiry*, and of Dr. Heberden in the *London Medical Transactions*.

According to our author, Dr. George Fordyce was the first who contended that the blood drawn in inflammatory diseases, is in a more fluid state, and continues longer fluid than in other cases; and this opinion, Mr. Hewson has since endeavoured to support by many experiments. On this subject, however, Mr. Hey holds a very opposite doctrine; he admits, indeed, that when a strong crust of size is about to be formed on the crassamentum, the surface of the whole mass becomes somewhat transparent, soon after it is received into the cup, before the usual separation of the serum takes place; and that in these cases the surface of such blood remains in a fluid state much longer than it does where no fizy crust is formed. But in place of supposing this fluid to be the coagulable lymph in an attenuated state, and deprived of its disposition to coagulation, Mr. Hey is inclined to believe, that it consists of the coagulable lymph diluted with serum. To this opinion he is chiefly led from examining
it

it by itself after coagulation, and after squeezing from it, by means of pressure, the serum which it contained. He admits, with Mr. Hewson, that the blood, upon which a fizy crust is found, generally looks thinner, as it flows from a vein than the blood of a healthy person on which there is no fize. But this thinness he also ascribes to an encreased quantity of serum which that blood contains, and he points out many circumstances which seem to him to render it extremely doubtful, whether inflammation has any influence in thinning the blood. Persons, he observes, of strong athletic habits, whose vascular action approaches the nearest to a state of inflammation, are not remarked to have thin blood. In the most violent inflammatory distempers the blood does not look thin, if evacuations and dilution by watery liquids have not preceded. When the blood appears very thin in inflammatory cases, there is a great proportion of serum. The crassamentum is most firm and tenacious upon standing, when it is taken from patients labouring under inflammatory diseases; and lastly, the blood is observed to be very thin in some disorders which are the reverse of inflammation. From all these circumstances

stances he infers, that the thin appearance of the blood affords no evidence that the coagulable lymph is attenuated in inflammatory disorders.

After offering this refutation of the first argument employed by Mr. Hewson to shew that the gluten of the blood is attenuated in cases of inflammation; Mr. Hey next proceeds to answer the other arguments used for the same purpose; particularly those which have been drawn from observing, that the red globules subside sooner in blood let in cases of inflammation, than in that which is taken from an animal in health. Although he admits the truth of this circumstance, yet he contends, that this affords no proof of the whole mass of blood, in such cases, being thinner than the serum alone in others, as Mr. Hewson alledges. In support of his assertion, he observes, that the red globules are not in the same state in the two cases which are compared; that the fluid water which rises to the surface of fizy blood soon after it is let out into a cup, although it consists chiefly of serum united with coagulable lymph, is yet thicker than serum alone; and lastly, that the subsidence of the red globules, in the case of the blood drawn
in

in inflammations, may, probably, be explained from the lymph, when in a fluid state, having less affinity with the crassamentum, than the serum has with the red globules.

Having thus attempted to refute the opinion which supposes, that the phenomena exhibited by the blood, in cases of inflammation, are to be attributed to a change in the quality of the gluten; Mr. Hey next endeavours to shew, that these circumstances are to be ascribed to a difference in the quantity. How far this ingenious author has been as successful in establishing his own doctrine, as in attempting to invalidate the opinion of others, the attentive reader will best be able to determine, from a candid examination of the work itself. Without assuming the province of giving a dictatorial judgment on the truth or falsehood of those opinions which fall under our notice, we may yet observe, that the arguments which he has here used as far from appearing to us to be perfectly conclusive. We shall not here, however, encroach upon the prerogative of the reader, by stating our own doubts, but shall merely content ourselves with endeavouring to give a concise, yet distinct view of his reasoning on this subject.

Mr.

Mr. Hey, with great justice observes, that when no size appears upon the surface of the crassamentum, it has been too commonly supposed that the blood is not fizy, and on the other hand, when such a covering does exist, it has been without sufficient reason imagined, that the blood abounds with size; conclusions equally erroneous, and equally detrimental, when they have any influence on the treatment of a patient's disorder. From some remarks of Dr. Huxham's, which have been confirmed by his own observations, Mr. Hey infers, that the density of the crassamentum, and the firmness of the fizy covering, are greatest in inflammatory diseases. Hence he thinks, that the tendency to concretion in the blood, cannot be owing to a diminished action of the blood-vessels.

From what happens in the slaughter of sheep, Mr. Hewson had concluded, that a diminution of the vascular action, causes a more speedy coagulation of the blood. Mr. Hey has also attended to this subject, and since the circumstances he has observed, are, in a great measure, the reverse of those described by Mr. Hewson, the future observations of others on the same subject, are still necessary for disco-

vering the cause of this difference. But, according to Mr. Hey's observations, the blood in the first cup was generally more fluid as it flowed, and more florid than the rest; yet it coagulated in the least time, had the most firm crassamentum, and threw off the greatest quantity of serum. That which was last received, flowed the most slowly, appeared the most viscid and dark-coloured as it flowed, was the latest in coagulating completely, had the softest crassamentum, and threw off the greatest quantity of serum.

Mr. Hey examined, in a similar manner, both the arterial and venal blood of calves, but the appearances were not the same, nor did the coagulation take place in any regular manner. He observes, that there is a remarkable difference in the appearance of the blood which is drawn at different periods of an inflammatory disease; that which is taken away at an early period of the disorder usually concretes quickly with a firm tenacious mass; which throws off little serum and has no fizy covering; whereas that which is drawn after repeated bleedings, when the distemper has continued several days, looks thinner as it flows, separates a greater proportion of serum, and has a strong coat of
fize

size upon its surface. He considers this variety as depending chiefly on the different proportion of serum; and he thinks, that in consequence of the blood being thinned by the watery liquors which are drank plentifully in these disorders, an opportunity is afforded for the particles of the coagulable lymph to unite more readily, and to ascend to the surface of the crassamentum.

It is more difficult, our author observes, to account for the various appearance of different portions of blood drawn at one operation. But these also, he thinks, are chiefly to be explained from differences, with respect to exposure to air, from the degree of heat or cold by which the blood is acted upon, and from the materials of which the vessel is composed into which it is received. If proper regard be paid to these circumstances, Mr. Hey imagines, that we may be able to give a satisfactory solution of the query proposed by Dr. Heberden, whether the fizy covering which is often seen upon the blood, be of any use in directing the method of cure. He thinks, that although the mere appearance of size on the surface of the crassamentum, give no certain direction respecting the method of cure, yet the

quantity of size, found in or upon the crassamentum, which must be judged of by the thickness, and density of the fizy covering, and the tenacity of the crassamentum conjointly, affords, when compared with the other symptoms of the disease, some useful information.

He considers the thickness of the fizy covering of the blood, taken by itself, as affording no evidence of the quantity of coagulable lymph which enters it. For, he observes, that in many cases, this fizy covering is to be considered as little more than serum inviscated so as to take a solid form. And accordingly, in some cases, this fizy crust, will, in consequence of gentle pressure, lose above three fourths of its weight. Thus it appears, that in reality it contains only a very small proportion of coagulable lymph; but, he thinks, that a judgment may always be formed of the proportion of coagulable lymph in blood, from the thickness of the fizy coat, and firmness of the crassamentum taken together. And from these circumstances he concludes, that in inflammatory diseases there is an encrease of the quantity, not a change of the quality of the gluten. While, however, it is on all hands admitted,
that

that there are many different circumstances which have effect on the spontaneous separation of the blood, and have thus a tendency either to induce, or prevent, the appearance of a fizy covering; so it must also be allowed, that the viscidty of the crassamentum, will be affected, not merely by the quantity of the coagulable lymph, but also by its nature, and by the mode of coagulation. It is, perhaps, therefore to be regretted, that this ingenious author did not endeavour to ascertain the proportion of coagulable lymph in the blood, in different cases, by attempting to separate this part of the blood from the red globules and serum, and then weighing the quantity of it.

III.

D. Johann Christian Gottlieb Akermanns,
abhandlung uber die kenntnifs, und hielung des
Trismus, oder des Kinnbakkenzwanges, und des-
sen verschiedenen Arten, nebst einer geschichte der
damit verbundenen krankheiten, und den auf-
sichten sie zu heilen.

i. e.

A Treatise on the Knowledge and Cure of the Trif-
mus, or Locked Jaw, and its different Species ;
together with the History of the Diseases con-
nectd with it, and the Method of Cure. By
Dr. Akerman. 8vo. Nurenburg.

IN the beginning of this work, the author assigns his reasons for employing the term trismus, as the name of the disease of which he is to treat, rather than giving it the name tetanus, a term more generally used. He would not, he observes, have rejected the common appellation, had he not been to describe a species of the distemper to which he thought it did not apply. Although the term trismus has been by some considered as signifying any grating noise of the teeth, yet our author here uses it, as expressing a convulsion of the muscles which move the under jaw.

Hav-

Having thus defined the meaning of the term trismus, he next proceeds to consider the different kinds of it. He is of opinion, that the most ancient distinction is the most useful; that, viz. into the tetanus of the Greeks, or rigor nervorum of the Latins, and spasmos of the Greek, or convulsio of the Latins. This distinction, which is to be found in the earliest medical writings, is, he observes, pointed out by nature. It is particularly followed by the Stahlian physicians, who distinguished the tetanus of the Greeks by the name of spasmus tonicus, and the convulsio of the Latins, by that of spasmus clonicus.

Following this distinction, he thinks, that the first kind of trismus may be named the trismus tonicus; and he considers a spasmodic constriction of the muscles, which draw the under jaw-bone to the upper, in consequence of which the jaws remain shut, and cannot be opened, as being the constant characteristic of this species. This is the locked jaw of the English, the spasmus maxillæ inferioris of the modern physicians. The characteristic of the second kind or trismus clonicus, is a continual spasmodic motion of the under jaw, owing to the muscles which move it, being at one time

contracted by a spasm, and soon again relaxed. This second kind of the trismus, is not, he observes, mentioned by any ancient physician, unless we refer to it the spasmodic convulsions of the face mentioned by Hippocrates. Among the moderns, he finds no trace of it, excepting in the writings of Marcellus Donatus.

After these remarks, the author next proceeds to consider the different affections referred to the heads of trismus tonicus and clonicus. As well from its frequently occurring in practice, as from the great danger with which it is attended, he considers as the first species of the trismus tonicus that which arises from wounds in any part of the body, even when they are of the slightest nature. This species, he observes, is more frequent in hot climates than in cold ones. He enumerates as a second species, that to which new-born infants are subject, particularly at a determined time after birth. To a third species he gives the name of trismus lenitus; and as this species has not been described by any practical writer, he gives the history of a case of it. In this case the disease is described as having occurred in a very slow and progressive manner, and in about three weeks it gradually and imperceptibly

tibly disappeared as it had come on, without any apparent evacuation, or perceptible change in the muscles employed in chewing. The fourth species of the trismus tonicus he terms trismus rheumaticus. The circumstances connected with it evidently shew how far it differs from all others. It frequently arises from the repulsion of eruptions, from the stoppage of perspiration, from the palsy, and similar causes.

The trismus clonicus make its appearance, he observes, more rarely than the tonicus. In enumerating the species of this, he mentions as the first, the trismus clonicus rheumaticus, which he considers as having a great analogy to the trismus tonicus rheumaticus, both with respect to the causes from which it arises, and the degree of danger with which it is attended. To the second species he gives the name of trismus clonicus intermittens, or periodicus, in proof of the existence of which, he relates the history of a case in which it took place.

The last distinction which our author endeavours to establish with respect to this affection is into idiopathic and symptomatic. He is inclined to consider those as idiopathic, which, although they may at first arise from wounds, yet continue after the wound is healed with the same violence as before, and are fre-

frequently the cause of death. The trismus clonicus, he observes, most frequently appears as an attendant of other complaints, and may, in general, be considered rather as symptomatic than idopathic.

After pointing out these distinctions, the author next proceeds to treat more particularly of the trismus tonicus, and first of that species which arises from wounds. This species, he observes, is often preceded by frequent yawning, slight cough, an uneasy oppression about the breast, pain at the back part of the tongue, want of appetite, and a disagreeable sensation in the belly. But in other cases, without any of these symptoms, the inability to open the mouth, is the very first appearance. In general, the wound, which is the source of all the complaints, gives very little, or rather no pain; and not unfrequently, it is completely healed up before the trismus begins. In some instances, however, the disease, through its whole course is attended with very severe pain in the wounded part. The spasm soon becomes so violent, that the patient is unable to swallow any thing but liquids, and although nothing preternatural can be discovered in the throat, yet the jaws are so closely shut, that no power is able to separate them. In
some

some instances, the spasm extends to the back and other parts of the body in such a manner, that the patient must continue motionless in bed. Subfultus tendinum is then a frequent circumstance. The skin is so stretched over the muscles which it covers, that it cannot, by any means, be elevated from them, as is the case in a sound state. The pulse is slow, irregular, intermitting, and always weak; the breathing is always somewhat more difficult than in a sound state; but when the spasm is extended to the back this difficulty is very much increased, and attended with a peculiar noise. Neither the pulse, nor any other circumstance, give indication of any degree of fever. On the contrary, every function of the body appears to be affected with a state of torpor; for the most part, the countenance is pale, or of an unnatural yellow cast, and its expressions indicate the anguish to which the patient is subjected. Blood drawn from a vein is very little different from that in a natural state; sometimes, however, it is observed to be of a clearer red colour and more spongy. The patient very rarely sleeps, and when sleep does take place, he derives very little refreshment from it. In some cases there is a slight eruption on the skin, which, however, neither

en-

increases nor diminishes the violence of the distemper.

The duration of this disease depends very much upon the constitution of the body affected, and on the proper application of the means of cure. If it attacks one of an irritable habit and much disposed to spasm, it often proves fatal in a short time, sometimes in the space of three or four days; but in most cases, the patient is not cut off till three or four weeks from the commencement of the affection.

After having given this account of the trismus traumaticus, our author observes, that the trismus rheumaticus does not differ from it in the principal circumstances. The pulse, however, is, in general, more full and quick, and frequently what would indicate a state of inflammation. This disease usually continues a shorter time than the former, and the danger is less alarming.

In treating of the third species of trismus, which, from its frequently attacking children, has been named the trismus infantilis; he observes, that it is considered as being very fatal in most countries, but particularly in warm climates. He tells us that in Guinea, and some other

other parts of Africa it is endemic. By the observations made in different counties, it appears, that children are exposed to this disease at different periods after birth ; but it principally occurs between the 9th and the 14th day. It is in very rare instances only that it occurs at a later period. In giving the history of this disease, he observes, that without any previous heat, and, in most instances, without any external cause, the child sinks into a very unnatural weariness and sleepiness, attended with frequent yawnings ; these, according to circumstances, are accompanied sometimes sooner, sometimes later, with a difficulty in moving the under jaw. This at length increases to such a degree, that the mouth is so much shut as not to admit any food ; sometimes, although the child can open its mouth, there is a total inability to suck or swallow. The patient feels no painful sensation, and the belly is frequently, although not always, swelled, as some have alledged. The skin has a pale yellow colour, which is particularly visible in the countenance ; the eyes are confused, and the spasms not unfrequently extend over the body, which may be considered as a symptom of approaching death. The disease seldom conti-

nues

nues above two, or at most three, days, in those cases in which it proves mortal. But when the patient recovers, it is often of longer continuance.

After these descriptions of the different species of trismus tonicus, our author next describes the trismus clonicus, which he observes differs in so many respects from the former, that it may be considered as a different kind of spasmodic disease. It is, he observes, less frequent than any of the former, and not so fatal. The greatest part of those who are affected with it recover. But it does not end so soon as most of the kinds of the trismus tonicus. In some instances of this affection, the lower jaw is in constant motion without any interval; in others, there are considerable intermissions. Differences also occur with respect to the violence of the spasms; but he considers the characterizing circumstances as consisting in gnashing of the teeth, or motion of the under jaw.

After these observations on the history of different species of trismus, he next makes some remarks on the causes. He observes, that the trismus tonicus proceeds more frequently from wounds, than from any other cause,

cause, in temperate climates ; but these are particularly apt to induce it when the patient is at the same time exposed to warm and moist air. The greater the sensibility of the wounded part, the more danger there is that the affection will prove fatal. Physicians have in general been inclined to suppose, that warmth and moisture are the causes of the trismus infantilis. Our author, however, imagines, that some accidental exposure to cold, occurring together with these, is necessary for producing this affection.

Another cause of the trismus infantilis, he imagines, to be want of attention on the part of the mother with respect to her way of living. It may, he thinks, be the effect of a fright, or any other accident, which can have influence in producing any alteration on the state of the milk, and thus corrupting the nourishment of the child. He thinks that it may also proceed from swaddling children too closely, a practice, which he observes is becoming less frequent.

After these observations on the causes, he next proceeds to treat of the method of cure.

In

In the trismus traumaticus, the general indications of cure which he lays down are,

1. To pay the greatest attention to the wound, and to avoid every thing which can in any degree irritate.

2. To diminish the violence of the spasm, both by external and internal applications.

3. To endeavour to counteract the tendency to a general tetanus till the spasm be entirely removed.

In the trismus rheumaticus, from whatever cause it may arise, whether from a stoppage of perspiration, or from an unnatural constitution of the fluids, the objects principally to be aimed at are,

1. To procure sleep, and thus to encrease perspiration.

2. To obviate the bad consequences which may arise from a determination of fluids to the internal parts.

3. To discharge the foreign stagnating juices, or to lead to a deposition of them in some proper place.

In the trismus infantilis, he proposes the following indications.

1. To

1. To correct as much as possible any bad qualities in the milk by proper nourishment.

2. To endeavour, by internal means, when the violence of the distemper will admit of it, and when that cannot be done by external applications, to promote the usual discharges.

3. To prevent as much as possible the violence of the spasmodic affections.

After laying down these general indications, he next makes some remarks on the particular remedies which may be applied with advantage to obtain these ends.

In cases of the trismus traumaticus, where there is reason to believe that a nerve is much injured or lacerated, although not entirely ruptured; he advises, that it be completely divided. And among the internal remedies which have been employed against this affection, he puts principal confidence on the juice of poppies and opium.

In the trismus rheumaticus also, he considers the use of poppies as being of the greatest service. But in those cases which proceed from the repulsion of any cutaneous eruption, he recommends mercurial friction as being a preferable remedy.

As the trismus clonicus proceeds from nearly the same causes with the trismus tonicus, the mode of treatment is not widely different. But as the disease is not so violent, and the danger not so alarming, he does not imagine that it will be found so frequently necessary to have recourse to the use of poppies. On the contrary, in particular instances it appeared to him to be rather productive of a bad effect. After the use of purgatives, consisting of rhubarb and sal. polychrest. he exhibited to his patients, in this affection, a mixture of spirit of hartshorn and Hoffman's anodyne water with great advantage.

He concludes his observations on this subject, with pointing out the external application which may be applied with greatest advantage. And he is inclined to think, that among all these the best consequences may be expected from mercurial frictions.

IV.

*Experiments and Observations on Animal Heat, and
and the Inflammation of combustible Bodies. Be-
ing an Attempt to resolve the Phænomena into a
general Law of Nature. By Adair Crawford,
A. M. 8vo. London.*

WHEN it is considered that the treatise now before us consists principally of a minute detail of experiments, it will naturally be concluded that it is impossible for us to give, in every respect, a proper analysis of it. The doctrines, however, deduced from these experiments, are in so many particulars different from the opinions generally received by modern philosophers, that they may justly be considered as meriting particular attention; especially, as they are supported by numerous, and these too, apparently, probable arguments. We shall, therefore, endeavour to present our readers with as full and distinct a view of Mr. Crawford's opinion as is consistent with the nature of our work.

The author introduces his subjects by pointing out the different senses in which the words

heat and *fire* have been taken. Following Dr. Irvine, the ingenious professor of chemistry at Glasgow, and some others, he adopts the term *absolute heat*, as expressing the power or element, which when it is present to a certain degree, excites in all animals the sensation of heat; while sensible heat expresses the same power considered as relative to the effects which it produces. But bodies of different kinds have different capacities of containing heat, as is exemplified in the case of water and antimony. In these, therefore, the absolute heat is different when the sensible heat is the same. And if, with many modern philosophers, we consider the word *fire* as expressing that unknown principle, which, when it is present to a certain degree, excites the sensation of heat alone; but when accumulated to a greater degree, renders itself obvious to the sight and touch, or produces heat accompanied with light, it signifies the same thing with absolute heat.

Having premised these remarks, he next presents the reader with a view of the general facts upon which the experiments are founded. Heat, he observes, is contained in great quantities in all bodies when at the common temperature of the atmosphere. It has a constant
ten-

tendency to diffuse itself over all bodies, till they are brought to the same degree of sensible heat. And if the parts of the same homogeneous body have the same degree of sensible heat, the quality of absolute heat which they contain will be in proportion to their bulk, or quantity of matter.

He considers the mercurial thermometer as being an accurate measure of the comparative quantities of absolute heat, which are communicated to the same homogeneous bodies, or separated from them, as long as such bodies continue in the same form; that is, if the sensible heat of a body, as measured by the mercurial thermometer, be diminished one half, one third, or in any given proportion, the absolute heat will be diminished in the same proportion. But the comparative quantities of absolute heat, which are communicated to different bodies, or separated from them, cannot be determined in a direct manner by the thermometer.

After having premised these general facts, the author proceeds, in the second section, to lay before the reader his own experiments on animal heat, and on the inflammation of combustible bodies. He observes, that experi-

ments for determining the comparative quantities of absolute heat in bodies, are liable to inaccuracy from different causes; particularly from the escape of heat into the air during the time requisite for mixture; from the mutual communication of heat between the vessel and the mixture; and from the difference which is often observable between the heat at the surface and at the bottom of the mixture. After pointing out the precautions by which inaccuracies from these sources may best be avoided, he next presents us with the relation of his experiments for determining the absolute heat of the most common vegetable and animal substances compared with water. As an example of the method in which these experiments were conducted, we shall give a detail of the first in his own words, and mention merely the result of the succeeding ones.

EXPERIMENT I.

Air in the room	—	69
A pound of wheat	—	66
A pound of water	—	166

The mixture being agitated for a short time the temperature at the end of,

I mi-

		Surface.		Bottom.		Medium.
1 minute was	—	138	—	128	—	133
2	—	134	—	125	—	129½
3	—	131	—	122	—	126½
4	—	127	—	120	—	123½

The mean temperature of the mixture at the end of one minute was 133, at the end of two minutes 129½, at the end of three minutes 126½. The heat carried off by the air in the first minute, being calculated according to Sir Isaac Newton's rule, was nearly 3½. If we add this to 133, we shall have 136½ for the true temperature of the mixture. It was proved that the capacity of the vessel for receiving heat was to that of water, as 1 to 12⅓. In the experiment which we are now considering, the vessel was raised from 66 to 133, or 67.5, dividing this by 12⅓, we have nearly 5.5 for the quotient. From this it appears, that the water was cooled by the vessel 5.5, or the vessel separated 5.5 degrees from the water. The true temperature of the mixture was 136½, subtracting this from 166, we have 29½ for the remainder. The water was therefore cooled 29½ by the wheat and the vessel together. But it was cooled 5.5 by the vessel. It was there-

fore cooled 24 by the wheat. But the wheat was raised from 66 to $136\frac{1}{2}$, or 70.5. It follows that the same quantity of heat which will change the temperature of water 24, will change that of wheat $70\frac{1}{2}$. Therefore the absolute heat of water is to that of wheat as $70\frac{1}{2}$ to 24, or very nearly as 2.9 to 1.

From similar experiments he determines the comparative heat of water to be to that of oats as $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 1; of water to barley as 2.4. to 1; of water to beans as 1.6 to 1; of water to the lungs of a sheep as 1.3 to 1; of water to milk as 1.1. to 1; and of a mixture of venous and arterious blood to water as 25 to 24.4. Without pretending to enter into the inquiry how far the method here employed for determining the absolute heat of bodies, can, in any case, lead to a certain conclusion, we may yet observe, that one obvious objection occurs to all the experiments as here related. The different articles, which were the subject of them, were tried in very different circumstances. Thus, for example, wheat was tried with the air in the room at 69, and the water added to it was at 166. Barley was tried with the air of the room at 60, and the water added to it

was

was at 160. While again, to determine the absolute heat of blood, that fluid was taken at 98, and the water added to it was at 47 degrees only; and in this trial half a pound only of each of the fluids were employed, while in all the former ones, a pound of each of the substances had been used. How far experiments, thus essentially differing from each other, can be a proper foundation for any calculation, future trials must determine. But it would certainly have been much more satisfactory to every reader, who has no opportunity of repeating the experiments, that the different substances, whose absolute heat is compared, had been tried in precisely the same circumstances.

These experiments, however, Mr. Crawford imagines in general prove, that flesh, milk, and vegetables, contain less absolute heat than water; and that water contains less than blood. Blood, therefore, he concludes, contains a greater quantity of absolute heat than the principles of which it is composed. The remarkable accumulation of heat in this fluid, led him to suspect, that it absorbs heat from the air in the process of respiration; and in this suspi-

suspicion he was confirmed by the following considerations.

1. That those animals which are furnished with lungs, and which continually inspire the fresh air in great quantities, have the power of keeping themselves at a temperature considerably higher than the surrounding atmosphere ; but that animals which are not furnished with respiratory organs, are very nearly of the same temperature with the medium in which they live.

2. That among the hot animals those are the warmest which have the largest respiratory organs, and which, consequently, breathe the greatest quantity of air in proportion to their bulk. Thus the respiratory organs of birds, compared with their size, are more extensive than those of other animals, and birds have the greatest degree of animal heat.

3. That in the same animal, the degree of heat, is, in some measure, proportionable to the quantity of air inspired in a given time. Thus animal heat is increased by exercise, and by whatever accelerates respiration.

In farther confirmation of this doctrine, our author endeavours to demonstrate by experiment, the following propositions.

1. That

1. That atmoſpherical air contains a greater quantity of abſolute heat than the air which is expired from the lungs of animals; and that the quantity of abſolute heat contained in any kind of air which is fit for reſpiration, is very nearly in proportion to its purity, or to its power of ſupporting animal life.

2. That the blood which paſſes from the lungs to the heart by the pulmonary vein, contains more abſolute heat than that which paſſes from the heart to the lungs, by the pulmonary artery.

3. That the capacities of bodies for containing heat are diminished by the addition of phlogiſton, and encreaſed by the ſeparation of this principle.

For a view of the experiments by which he attempts to demonſtrate theſe propoſitions, we muſt refer our readers to the work itſelf. And in order to afford full conviction on this ſubject, not only a candid peruſal of what is related by this ingenious author, but a repetition of the experiments alſo, both in the manner performed by Mr. Crawford, and in circumſtances ſomewhat different, would ſeem to be neceſſary.

But

But after endeavouring, in the second section to establish these important facts, he proceeds in the third to offer an explanation of animal heat, and of the heat which is produced by the inflammation of burning bodies. His opinion respecting the cause of animal heat, is, that it depends upon a process similar to a chemical elective attraction. The air is received into the lungs, containing a great quantity of absolute heat; the blood is returned from the extremities highly impregnated with phlogiston; the attraction of the air to the phlogiston is greater than that of the blood. This principle will therefore leave the blood to combine with the air. By the addition of the phlogiston, the air is obliged to deposit a part of its absolute heat, and as the capacity of the blood is, at the same moment increased by the separation of the phlogiston, it will instantly unite with that portion of heat which had been detached from the air. In this manner he supposes the blood to acquire absolute heat.

He next observes, that from Dr. Priestley's experiments, with respect to respiration, it appears, that the arterial blood has a strong attraction

traction to phlogiston; it will, consequently, he thinks, during the circulation, imbibe this principle from those parts which retain it with least force, or from the putrescent parts of the system. And hence the venous blood when it returns to the lungs is found to be highly impregnated with phlogiston. By this impregnation, its capacity for containing heat is diminished; in proportion, therefore, as the blood, which had been dephlogisticated by the process of respiration, becomes again combined with phlogiston, in the course of circulation, it will gradually give out that heat which it had received in the lungs, and diffuse it over the whole system. Thus, according to our author, in respiration the blood is continually discharging phlogiston, and absorbing heat; and, in the course of circulation, it is continually imbibing phlogiston, and emitting heat.

He concludes from his experiments, that atmospherical air contains much absolute heat; that when it is converted into fixed and phlogisticated air, the greater part of this heat is detached, and that the capacities of bodies for containing heat are diminished by the addition of phlogiston, and increased by the separation
of

of it. Hence he infers, that the heat which is produced by combustion, is derived from the air, and not from the inflammable body. Thus his doctrine upon the whole is, that atmospherical air contains in its composition a great quantity of fire. By the separation of a portion of this fire in the lungs, it supports the temperature of the arterial blood, and thus communicates that *pabulum vitæ*, which is so essential to the preservation of the animal kingdom. And finally, by a similar process, it maintains those natural and artificial fires, which are excited by the inflammation of combustible bodies.

Having delivered this doctrine, he next proceeds to explain on this hypothesis the principal facts relating to animal heat, and the inflammation of combustible bodies. On the former of these subjects, he endeavours to shew why breathing animals have a higher temperature than those who are not furnished with respiratory organs; why the animal body has, in certain situations, the power of producing cold, or of keeping itself at a lower temperature than the surrounding medium; why, among different animals, those are the hottest which breathe the greatest quantity of air; why

why, in the same animal, the degree of heat at different periods, is, in some measure, proportioned to the quantity of air inhaled in a given time; and finally, why topical inflammations are accompanied with unusual heat? But the limits of our publication will neither allow of our offering any view of these, nor of suggesting our doubts with respect to them.

For the same reason also, we cannot pretend to follow him in the solution which he gives of the principal facts relating to the combustion of inflammable bodies. We shall, therefore, conclude this subject, by presenting our readers with the account he gives of volcanos, which afford us examples of, perhaps, the most tremendous phenomena in nature exhibited by fire.

It is found, he observes, by experiment, that the phænomena of an earthquake may be imitated by a mixture of iron filings and brimstone, made into a paste with water, and buried in the earth. This, he thinks, may be accounted for in the following manner. The attraction of phlogiston to the acid of sulphur will be diminished both by the attraction of iron to this acid, and by that of water.

In

In the degree of heat, which is necessary to the inflammation of sulphur, atmospherical air is capable of separating the phlogiston from the vitriolic acid. And Mr. Crawford thinks it probable, that by the assistance of the iron and the water, it may be capable of producing this effect in the common temperature of the atmosphere. If this be the case, it follows, that by the action of the air, which is diffused through the substance of the earth, upon the phlogiston of the sulphur, and by that of the iron and water upon the acid, the sulphur will be decomposed; the air will unite with the phlogiston, the iron with the acid, a quantity of fire will be disengaged from the former, and an inflammable elastic fluid from the latter; and hence a commotion will be excited, accompanied with noise, and the eruption of a flame resembling the phenomena of an earthquake.

May not, says he, a similar mixture of sulphureous and metallic bodies be produced in consequence of the changes which take place in the bowels of the earth? May not these bodies be brought into contact with the water and atmospherical air which are diffused through the earth's substance, or lodged in cavities
beneath

beneath its surface. By the action of the air upon the phlogiston, and of the water and the ore upon the acid, may not the sulphur be decomposed as in the mixture of iron filings and brimstone. In this case, a quantity of fire will be disengaged, and an elastic vapour produced; the latter of which, by its sudden expansion, will excite a commotion in the bowels of the earth; and will, at length force its way through the superincumbent strata.

If much combustible matter be lodged in regions where the subterraneous fires have been kindled, and if this matter be mixed with atmospherical air, or with substances, which, by the application of heat, produce a fluid which is capable of maintaining fire, the inflammation may be augmented to a prodigious degree; and the rarified vapours may carry along with them in their ascent, a great quantity of ignited materials abounding with phlogiston; by the exposure of which the phlogiston will be discharged, and the flame extended through a large tract of air. In this manner, he thinks, we may account for volcanos, those awful instances of combustion, which are exhibited by nature in the fossil kingdom. And upon the

he concludes, that a variety of important facts are produced in the universe, in consequence of the mutual opposition of fire and phlogiston.

How far future experiments, and solid reasoning will serve to confirm or refute this hypothesis, we cannot take upon us to determine. But from the ingenuity and judgment with which the author has supported it, as well as from the importance of the subject, it may justly be considered as meriting particular attention. And if the doctrine which Mr. Crawford has proposed, and has with so much ability supported, shall be confirmed by the observations of others, it will afford a new and most extensive field of investigation for every philosophical inquirer.

VI.

Observations sur le Contrepoison du Sublime Corrosif, par. M. Dumonceau, Medecin Pensionnaire de la Ville de Tournai & des Hopitaux. Vide Journal de Medecin. 12mo. Paris 1778.

THE dreadful effects, which have not unfrequently been observed to result from corrosive sublimate, render it an object of very great

great importance to practitioners to be acquainted with antidotes, by which the influence of this poison may be most effectually counteracted. And these particularly deserve notice, when from trials, in actual practice, they have been found to be attended with success. In a case, treated by Mr. Dumonceau, such a favourable termination was happily obtained by means of the timely use of *sal abfinthii*.

A man of a robust habit of body, and sanguine temperament, in the fortieth year of his age, took one evening, about ten o'clock, a considerable quantity of corrosive sublimate, which happened to be in his house, and which had been procured for poisoning rats. He swallowed it, after mixing it in a glass of beer. The instant after he had had taken it, his mouth, œsophagus, and stomach, were very much affected by its caustic powers. Inflammation of the mouth, and a burning heat in the region of the stomach, attended with excruciating pain, soon succeeded to the first impression of the corrosive sublimate. These feelings were quickly propagated through the whole intestinal canal, and were there attended with as severe pains as those of the stomach.

Soon after, his countenance was very much swelled, and became of a crimson red colour, and his eyes were sparkling. He was affected with anxiety about the præcordia, with inquietude and constant tossing. Amidst these symptoms, his pulse became feverish and small. In this situation, an emetic was given him in a glass of water, but it had little effect in producing vomiting, and the pains, which were before very violent, seemed to be augmented.

When the patient was in this situation, Mr. Dumonceau was called in, who, with the view of decomposing the metallic salt, immediately exhibited to this patient, a dram of the salt of wormwood, in a glass of water. He subjoined to it also the use of inspissants, with the view of involving the acid particles. Upon these measures the pains were somewhat abated, yet they returned at intervals with great severity, and symptoms occurred which seemed to threaten a corrosion of the internal membrane of the stomach and intestines; for the matters discharged by stool were observed to be tinged with blood. Yet Mr. Dumonceau, as well as Mr. Planchen, who was also called in, agreed in the propriety of continuing the medicine; and, accordingly, two
drams

drams of the *sal abfinthii*, in two ounces of *incrassant decoction*, were exhibited to him. From this he felt very distinctly considerable relief; and although the pains returned from time to time with violence, yet they became by degrees more easy, and by the next morning, a calm had, as it were, succeeded to the storm. All the alarming symptoms had now disappeared, but there still remained a painful sensation through the whole tract of the alimentary canal, and the patient complained of general weakness and lassitude.

The author, after giving this detail of the case, which had thus a happy termination, subjoins a few remarks on this subject. He observes, that a knowledge of chemical affinities points out the propriety of this practice. The fixed alkali, by its attraction to the muriatic acid, the union of which with mercury forms corrosive sublimate, quickly combines with this acid. Upon this, one part of the mercury is precipitated in the form of a mercurial calx, and the other part is reduced to the state of *mercurius dulcis*. But neither *mercurius dulcis*, nor calx of mercury, in a small quantity, are highly pernicious to the

animal oeconomy. From the union again of the fixed alkali with the marine acid, which also takes place, a febrifuge salt is formed, from which no danger can be apprehended.

VII.

*Traitement d'une Affection Soporeuse, par M. Boyer,
Med. Correspond. de la Societé Royal de Medecine.
Vid. Gazette de Santé Année 1778. 4to. Paris.*

MR. Boyer introduces his observation on the singular and alarming case which he has here related, by remarking, that he puts very little confidence on specifics in general, and least of all on those which are highly extolled. For this very circumstance is sufficient, he thinks, to render them suspected. Notwithstanding these general sentiments, however, he reckons it but justice to give a fair and candid account of what passed under his own observation, respecting the use of the volatile alkali fluor, which has of late been highly celebrated at Paris in all the public papers.

A young woman, in the eighteenth year of her age, of a delicate habit of body, and, in some degree, subjected to rachitis; being upon a
visit

visit to a relation was, about three in the afternoon, suddenly attacked with violent convulsions. These were attended with foaming at the mouth, and total loss of sense. In this situation she was put into bed, and Mr. Boyer was sent for. Before he came, the convulsive motions had entirely ceased; he found the pulse of his patient regular but weak. Her extremities were cold, and she was affected with a sound sleep, from which she could not, by any means, be roused.

The symptoms which were described to him, he considered as indicating an epileptic fit. But he was informed, that she had never before been affected with any thing which could give the least suspicion of that disease. He was told also, that the evening before she had passed some worms, and had eat at dinner a considerable quantity of chesnuts.

After the use of several external stimuli, commonly employed in such circumstances, without effect, he judged it necessary to exhibit a vomit. This was given her from a spoon, but not without a good deal of difficulty, her teeth being very close together. The vomit produced violent straining, but was accompanied with very little evacuation. It had, however, no influence in the removal of her state of torpor.

He then employed, in succession, irritating clysters, and a variety of antihysterical medicines, with no better effect. At length, on the third day from the attack, a large blister was applied between her shoulders. The blister rose well, and during its action she was observed to sigh, but gave no other sign of sensibility.

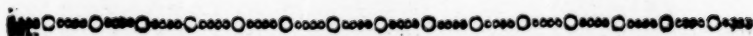
All these measures having proved fruitless, and the affection having now continued to the fifth day, the torpor and other apoplectic symptoms being nothing diminished, and the pulse becoming more weak, he resolved upon a trial of the volatile alkali fluid, which he considers, however, as nothing else than the volatile spirit of sal ammoniac, which has for a very long time been commonly used in medicine in similar cases. Almost immediately after the first spoonful, the patient was evidently much agitated, and cried out, she was poisoned, and must instantly have some water. Cold water was given her, but soon after taking it she fell into the same stupor as before. Next morning another dose was given her, the immediate effect of which was the same as the evening before; but with this difference, that after being roused from the stupor, it did not again return. The patient

patient complained only of pain of her head, which, however, gradually left her, and she soon recovered her former health.

Having given this relation of the case, Mr. Boyer next states some queries on this subject. He asks, how the volatile alkali can here be supposed to act. Does it operate, says he, as a specific? Did it remove the cause of the complaint? But what was the cause? And whatever it was, could it be supposed to be destroyed in an instant? It can hardly, he thinks, be here supposed to have operated as a stimulus, since before that, he had employed stimulants both externally and internally, frictions, emetics, blisters, &c. without any good effect. He concludes with observing, that whatever may be the case, and however decisive this fact may appear in favour of the volatile alkali, yet as he had before the misfortune to entertain doubts with regard to its efficacy, and as he thinks it not impossible that the other remedies may have contributed to the success, he promises to take the first opportunity of repeating this practice in similar cases. And it is to be hoped that he will communicate the result of his trials to the public.

S E C T.

S E C T. II.

Medical Observations.

I.

*A Case of Hydrocephalus, by Dr. Robert Butler
Remmett, Physician at Plymouth.*

IT is exceedingly to be lamented that, in a science of so much importance to mankind as is that of medicine, conclusions are frequently formed at random, and thus handed down from century to century, without the smallest inquiry into the arguments by which they may be supported. When we have at last, however, been induced by accident, or some more laudable motive, to examine the grounds of our opinions, we have too often
had

had abundant reason to regret our former negligence, and wonder at the ignorance with which we have so long persisted in the most dangerous practices. The present approved method of treating the small-pox, and several other disorders, would sufficiently evince the truth of this observation; but I have been more particularly led to it by a case of hydrocephalus, for which I was lately consulted. The event was indeed fatal, but as the disorder is not very common, and the method of treatment is new, and contrary to the express prohibition of some other physicians, I think it my duty to offer it to the faculty, and shall be very happy if these cursory observations lead some more able practitioners to improve upon the hints I shall now throw out to them.

A. B. was born, after a natural labour, August 9, 1778, and being examined, was found to have a very large head, with the futures of the cranium very open, and an evident fluctuation of some fluid within it. From this time, to the age of two months, the disorder advanced very considerably, and then I was consulted, and found, besides the former symptoms, the eyes of the child much protruded, and starting, as it were, from the head.

head. In every other respect she was perfectly healthy, and a very strong girl.

The gradual progress of the disorder, the fluctuation of a fluid at the futures of the cranium, and the absence of every anasarous appearance, left me no doubt that there was an accumulation of water between the dura and pia mater.

To discover a probable method of cure was not so easy a matter; but having learnt from a similar, as well as from the present case, that little or nothing was to be expected from all the ordinary remedies of dropsy, and that no relief could be obtained from the application of blisters, which appeared to me to be the most probable means of cure, I determined, in conjunction with Mr. J. Woolcombe, an excellent surgeon of this town, to try what might be done by a cautious and gradual extraction of the water. Having chosen a place, at the opening of the futures, where we might be sure to avoid the sinusses of the dura mater, and have a depending orifice, a small puncture was carefully made with a lancet, and ten ounces of a clear pellucid fluid were drawn off the first time, which was on the 7th of October.

To

To obviate any inconvenience that might have arisen from lessening the pressure on the brain, we kept our hands constantly and equally applied all over the head during the operation, and afterwards rolled on a tight bandage. This being a new operation, we thought it necessary to observe the greatest caution, and were therefore unwilling to take off more than ten ounces, till we might be enabled to form a better judgment of the consequences, but as the child was not, in the smallest degree, disordered by the evacuation, we afterwards determined to repeat it from time to time, as circumstances might require.

On the 9th of October we accordingly took off twelve ounces more; and on the 12th fourteen ounces; by this time the futures were close, and the appearance of the head was almost natural, our little patient being still in good health. The secretion in this, as in most other dropical affections, went on, however, in spite of the evacuation; but it was not till the 9th of November that we thought it necessary to make another puncture, and as the head was then but moderately enlarged, we drew off only twelve ounces. By the 7th of Decem-

December, the disease had made a more rapid progress, and then we drew off thirty-two ounces before the head could be reduced to a natural appearance ; the child was all this while perfectly healthy, and continued so till the 24th of December, when, without any apparent reason, *at the distance of seventeen days from the last operation*, she suddenly fell into an atrophy, in which she lingered to the 4th of January, when she died.

It was particularly fortunate for me that her death did not happen sooner ; but as it may yet be suspected that her end was hastened by my treatment of her, and the consequent admission of air to the tender meninges of the brain, I think it necessary to assure my readers that the puncture being made in the most simple manner was always found again, and scarce visible after a day or two, and never discovered the slightest appearance of inflammation. So little reason is there to imagine that the wound was ever productive of any bad effects ; but every idea of this kind must be totally removed by the subsequent dissection, from which it appeared that there was not the least trace of any previous inflammation. But that my patient had so many other evils to encounter, that it was truly wonderful she could live and thrive so long.

The

The next morning after her death, being permitted to inspect her head, we found, to our great astonishment, the whole cavity of the cranium full of this clear, pellucid fluid, of which we collected about two quarts. The dura mater, with its processes, was entire; but we could not at first discover any appearance of brain, and after the most minute examination, we could only trace the medulla oblongata descending into the spine; and behind the orbits of the eyes a very small quantity of a medullary substance, indistinctly resembling that of the brain; what we saw, however, was quite entire, and covered by the pia mater, and I have already remarked, that the fluid was perfectly clear and pellucid, so we had not the least reason to adopt the opinion of Morgagni, who endeavours to prove that in all such cases the absence of brain must have arisen from its dissolution in the preternatural fluid contained in the cranium.

In Bonetus, as well as in Morgagni, similar dissections are to be met with. It is not, therefore, to excite the astonishment of my readers, or because I suppose this to be a new case, that I relate it. My only wish is to call the attention of the faculty to this very important disease;
that

that by repeated dissections it may be known in what state the cavity of the cranium is generally found, in those who die of this species of hydrocephalus. Should it often appear as I saw it, every idea of cure must be banished from our thoughts ; but should it on the contrary be happily discovered, that mine was an unfavourable case, and that the brain itself is not so materially disordered in most instances of this disease, I think I have shewn that the evacuation of the water is perfectly safe, and that it may as easily be made as by the common paracentesis of the abdomen.

How far the last operation is itself proper has, indeed, been doubted by some ; but if there has been a single cure promoted by it, (and many such may, I am sure be produced) should we not be much more inclined to have recourse to a similar operation, in a disease, the consequences of which are idiotism, and a train of evils, the greatest and most deplorable to which humanity is subject.

II.

The History of a singular Case of Rabies Canina terminating favourably, by the late James Tilton, M. D. of Dover-County, on the Delaware; communicated to Dr. Duncan by Mr. William Grisley, Student of Medicine.

IN June last, I visited Mrs. K. aged forty-seven years; she had been in June, eighteen years before that, bit by a mad dog; her husband being a physician, immediately scarified the slight wound in her ankle made by the dog's tooth, and applied a caustic to it. He gave her also such medicines as he thought best. During his life time, for seventeen years after the accident, the wound on her leg frequently broke out into a running sore, especially every spring of the year; he always promoted the discharge from the wound by proper digestives, until it inclined to heal up of itself, and then he would let it cicatrize, and besides this, every spring he took some blood and gave her a mercurial purge or two.

After his death, these precautions being neglected, the first spring (or rather early in the

summer) following, the parts about the cicatrix swelled and grew painful, but did not break out into a running wound. She bathed her leg in some warm bath, but omitted the bleeding and physic she had been used to in the spring-time. Soon after, she found herself strangely disordered in a manner she could not describe; but so as to make her very restless and uneasy, and affected her mind with a kind of fearfulness and distress, that was altogether unaccountable. This had not lasted above a day or two before she awoke in the night, raving mad with a frothing at the mouth, frequent convulsions about the stomach, throat, and face, and the most horrible dread of water. She was found in this condition about one o'clock in the morning, on the 19th of June last, when the two most adjacent physicians being called in, a blistering plaster was applied to the old cicatrix, and she was bled to the quantity of sixteen ounces; but as she was incapable of swallowing any thing, no more was done for her at this time.

Bleeding moderated her raving; but so far was her mind from being restored to right reason, that the night following, she broke away from her attendants, stripped herself naked, and

and ran out into the fields. It happened, however, to rain that night, and her abhorrence of the water forced her to return to the house again where she continued, to appearance, very mad, and very fearful, till daylight, none of the family daring to approach her for fear of injury. As soon as it was light, she set off for the woods most adjacent, but being pursued by some women they took her, put a shift on her, and tied her down in bed.

On the 21st of the month above mentioned, happening to be in the neighbourhood, I visited her out of curiosity rather than from the expectation of doing her any service. I found her in a restless agony, that went off with convulsions about the stomach, throat, and face, which occasioned several mouthfuls of a frothy saliva to be put out involuntarily. After this, she had an interval of reason, in which she could talk rationally, though much disturbed by an uncommon anxiety, which she said, could not be described; and thus exacerbations and remission of her disorder returned one after another continually, she had not so much as swallowed her spittle since the 19th; and to use her own expression, had not even the motion of swallowing; her countenance appeared

florid and sanguine, her respiration quick and laborious, her pulse full, and but little more quick than natural; her tongue was much swelled, and a frothy matter rested constantly about her lips, which she spit carelessly about on every side. She could not bear the name of water to be mentioned to her by any other person, though she would sometimes cry out, Water, herself. The sight of a spoon, or the noise of the well-pole, would throw her into convulsions. She would sometimes complain vehemently of thirst, and call for water; but when the cup was offered, she would fall into convulsive agonies, with ravings. I happened to mention warm bath as a suitable remedy; she instantly cried out, Don't mention water, oh! water, water, terrible water; screamed in the most hideous manner, was convulsed all over, put out mouthfuls of frothy saliva, and calmed again. All these actions seemed to be involuntary. In her intervals of reason, she would beg the by-standers to keep off from her, for her inclination was good to hurt any of them she could.

Both the other physicians who had seen her, plainly discovered their despondency of her recovery; and the patient was still farther convinced

vinced of certain death, by what her husband had told her in his life-time, in whom she professed implicit faith. I therefore found it a fruitless task to persuade her to use any remedies whatever, until an old friend of mine, distinguished by his benevolence above all his good qualities, called at the house in consequence of my visit, which he had heard of. He related a case from the London Magazine, in which the patient was recovered from a dreadful hydrophobia, by falling from a high place, wounding the temporal artery, and bleeding almost to death; he, therefore, earnestly recommended a large bleeding, and I took occasion, at the same time to observe, that a doubtful remedy was better than none. By the good old man's importunity, rather than my reasoning, she at length consented to be bled, and I immediately took between 20 or 30 ounces. From the time the blood began to run, she became calm, and by the evening, without any other help, was able to drink some milk, which, however, she chose to be sour rather than fresh.

Next morning (the 22d) I visited her again, and found her quite calm and sensible; she had no raving fits since the day before, had been

G g 3

rarely

rarely convulsed, and that in a slight degree ; and what was more pleasing than all the rest, she was able to drink sour whey, though she did not like to hear of water. There was now no froth about her mouth, she breathed easily and naturally while quiet, but seemed a little agitated with a kind of panting after talking ; which, she said, gave her pain. The swelling of her tongue had gone down, but she complained of a burning heat in her stomach ; her pulse was rather smaller but not quicker than natural.

Being now encouraged to hope for longer life, she consented to whatever should be advised. Several of the faculty being present, we soon agreed that bleeding should be repeated, which I immediately performed ad deliquum ; after this a bolus of five grains of calomel was given, to be purged off with an ounce of Glauber's salts, dissolved in four whey, an hour afterwards ; but the salts being rejected by her stomach, a dose of jalap, in the form of a bolus, was substituted. This occasioned her first to vomit a quantity of green slimy matter, and afterwards purged her. After the purge, an anodyne bolus of opium, camphor, and castor, was directed, but none
of

of her attendants would prevail on her to take it; for she said opium always disagreed with her, and her husband had altogether disapproved of her taking it some time before his death. Mercurial frictions were also advised, and a plaster of galbanum and opium to be applied to her throat and jaws, and these were done accordingly. The wound on her leg was renewed by a blister, and dressed with an ointment gently escharotic, to promote the discharge from it. The patient being at a considerable distance from my place of residence, I did not see her again till the 24th, I then found her so calm and reasonable it was unnecessary to confine her. She complained of great weakness and lowness of spirits, a sickness at stomach, and the burning heat continued, but lower down in her bowels. She had no appetite, and what little whey she took (which was the only food she had taken since the 22d) lay heavy on her stomach. She was now and then seized with a convulsive sob or two, and slight spasms of the muscles of the head and eyes, especially if she talked much, which also occasioned the panting in her breath above mentioned. Her pulse was weak and small. The small quantity of mercury, directed on the

22d, had made her mouth sore, and caused her to spit a little. She appeared to the attendants to sleep moderately, but she declared she had no good sound sleep, that her imagination was always disturbed, and that she had a strange propensity to think she should be better, and even well, if she could get into the woods alone.

It was now earnestly recommended to her, that she should sup frequently of any liquid nourishment, the most approved off, at least every hour; that a glyster of decoct. alth. vinegar and oil, with a little nitre, should be administered night and morning; and if she could not venture to take opium by the mouth, that sixty drops of liquid laudanum should be added to the evening glyster. By help of the mercurial friction, the present degree of spitting was to be kept up, a plaster of Ther. Venet. was ordered to the stomach, and in case a delirium should happen, bleeding was advised.

On the 29th, I visited her again, and found the glysters before directed had been altogether neglected through a mistaken modesty; and the rest of our advice had not been much more regarded; a little of the mercurial ointment

ment had been once or twice rubbed on, and the plaster of Venice treacle was applied to her stomach, but this last being suspected for a delirium that came on soon after, it was exchanged for some pounded rue. After this, she again fell into a slight delirium, but was instantly relieved by bleeding. Her son, who blooded her, told me, her blood appeared blacker, or darker coloured, than in either of the former bleedings, but that a considerable portion of it changed into serum upon standing. He also gave her some *assa foetida* and castor, which seemed to have a good effect upon her spirits.

Notwithstanding her neglect of drinking freely, and most of the advice given at my preceeding visit, except bleeding, she now appeared quite composed, without any of her convulsive fobs, or the least spasmodic affection, though she said these troubled her sometimes at night. Her abhorrence of water was now quite gone, so that she could drink it without any emotion. She, however, still felt some degree of that burning uneasiness in her bowels, complained of a lowness and oppression of spirits, and that her mind was still liable to fearfulness and strange impressions of
 imagi-

imagination, which she had not the power to controul.

After remonstrating against her negligence, I advised a repetition of three grains of merc. dulc. over night, to be purged off next morning with some senna and salts; that she should sup more frequently and plentifully of some liquid nourishment than she had done; that she should be familiar in washing with water as well as drinking of it; and, as soon as she was able, that she should remove to a convenient place, and use the cold bath.

Some days after this she fell into a slight delirium, and bit the arm of one of her attendants, but was instantly relieved as usual by bleeding, which was her resource in every instance of emergency; and was certainly the principal remedy in bringing about a happy cure. From this time she had no return of her disorder, but began to recover from that weak and low state, which fasting, evacuating medicines, and large bleedings had reduced her to. I have taken frequent occasions to visit her within these three months past, and find no traces of her madness left. It is true, she recovered but slowly from her weak and lan-

guish

guid condition, and her health has never been quite so vigorous since as before. This, however, was probably owing to an obstinacy in her temper, which made her always reject the better half of those helps that were recommended to her. The cold bath in particular, she constantly evaded, though frequently recommended with the greatest importunity.

This woman was always of a very hysterical habit, whence an ingenious young gentleman of the faculty, took occasion to observe, that possibly all her complaints might arise from that source, that the hysteric affection counterfeited all other disorders, and why not the hydrophobia. But does not the preceding history evince to the contrary? We may observe, the disorder took its first rise in the wounded part of the leg, from whence it made a gradual progress according to the usual course of the canine poison, and broke out into violence during sleep, rather than when she was awake. Her being cured, is no evidence her disorder was not from infection, nor the long interval between the bite and its effects, for we have authentic histories to prove that both are possible.

III.

The History of a Case of Ascites, remarkable for the Quantity of Water drawn off by Tapping. By Dr. William Scott, Physician in Hawick.

A Woman, in the thirty-fifth year of her age, when in the seventh month of pregnancy, had a violent bilious colic. Her belly was costive, and excessively swelled, attended with great thirst; but upon the administration of two or three emollient injections, the operation of which gave relief, and drinking a quantity of water-gruel which brought on vomiting, the symptoms were mitigated. About three days after her delivery, which was natural, she was again seized with the colic; but upon the repetition of the injections, and a dose of sacred tincture, she was again relieved. Upon feeling her belly, I found a hardness in the right side, all along under the short ribs, which plainly demonstrated that the liver was schirrhous.

For five months after delivery she had a return of the colic every fourth or fifth week. About this time the child was ordered to be weaned. One month after this she had symp-

tons

toms of the catamenia, which terminated in the colic without any discharge from the uterus.

The colic returned regularly, always about the time of menstruation for three months; from this time her belly began to swell, accompanied with costiveness and scarcity of urine. To remove the swelling of her belly, which evidently depended on a collection of water, the operation of the paracentesis was performed, and from February 1777, to May 1778, 928 pints of water were drawn off at twenty-four successive tapplings at different intervals, as will appear from the subsequent table. The water, for the first four times was limpid, resembling whey. Afterwards it became muddy, and for the last five times it seemed to consist principally of purulent matter. Upon the death of this patient, which happened soon after the twenty-fourth tapping, the following appearances were discovered on dissection. The omentum was almost entirely gone; the liver, uterus, and ovaria, were in a schirrhous state; the mesenteric glands were very much enlarged, and upon being cut open, seemed to contain purulent matter. The right kidney was in its natural state, but the left was much enlarged, and the ureter thickened in its

coats.

coats. The coats of the colon and rectum were also much thickened, and adhered to the neighbouring parts.

No. of Times.	Weeks.	Pints.	The first column marks the number of times for which the tapping was performed. The second the number of weeks intervening between each particular operation and the preceding one. And the third, the quantity of water, in English pints, drawn off at each operation.
1	—	34	
2	5	50	
3	4	20	
4	2	36	
5	4	48	
6	4	54	
7	3	54	
8	3	52	
9	3	56	
10	2	46	
11	3	53	
12	2	49	
13	2	46	
14	2	47	
15	2	42	
16	2	40	
17	2	28	
18	2	28	
19	2	29	
20	2	38	
21	2	31	
22	1	29	
23	1	13	
24	1	5	
Total of Water 928			

IV.

The History of an uncommon Case in Midwifery, by Mr. William Spier, Surgeon, of Ardee, County of Lowth, Ireland, communicated to Dr. Duncan.

I Was in the morning of the 21st of March last called to the assistance of M. R. a poor woman in this town, who was in labour of her first child; she was twenty years old, of a small stature, and with a narrow pelvis; but without any other apparent deformity. The midwife, who attended her from the beginning of her illness, informed me, that the woman had come to her full time, and had been in labour for the five preceding days; she said her pains had been much stronger and more severe since yesterday evening than before; that the membranes were not as yet broken, nor the waters discharged; but that in place of them, putrid coagulated blood had continued to flow abundantly from the vagina for half an hour.

As soon as I came, I was immediately solicited to try some method of delivering the woman, who was now somewhat exhausted by
the

the violence of the flooding. I was not a little surpris'd upon touching, to examine the progress of her labour, and endeavour to find out what might be uncommon in her case, to discover a large tumor, soft to the touch, and of a longitudinal form, covering the os internum. I at first mistook this tumour for the membranes, and I imagined the flooding to proceed from some mismanagement of the midwife; but, upon a more minute examination, to find out the source of the flooding, I discovered it to proceed from the tumor. I found also that this tumor was divided near its middle, by a pretty thick membrane into two separate sacs. As the woman was now grown languid, and her pulse feeble, I thought it the most eligible method to make an opening into the most remote sac to allow its contents to be evacuated. This I accordingly did with the nail of my fore-finger, and immediately upon the opening being made, there gushed out a great quantity of putrid coagulated blood. This gave her some relief for the present. In the interim, the parts were frequently fomented with an emollient decoction; and in the intervals of the fomentation, a warm cloth was kept continually applied. Two hours and a quarter,

quarter after the blood was discharged, the membranes broke and the waters came away. The child's head presented itself, but was strictly locked in the pelvis. I waited that evening, that night, and next morning, in expectation that nature would assist the birth, but was at length sorry to find myself disappointed in my expectation. The few lingering pains which she had the preceding evening had left her. She was now become languid, and her pulse intermitting. In this critical situation, I was determined upon making trial of the forceps, as recommended in these dubious cases by that learned and experienced professor of midwifery, Dr. Young, a gentleman to whom I shall ever acknowledge myself under the greatest obligations. I accordingly tried them, and in a short time, delivered her of a dead male child, which, from its livid appearance, seemed to have been dead a considerable time in the womb. She met with no laceration of the perinæum, nor had she any incontinence of urine; accidents which frequently ensue after præternatural cases; but she complained at the change of weather, of

pains about the region of the pubis. Her lochia were at first very offensive, but shortly after they became less so. The woman had a speedy and good recovery, and is now so well as to take care of her usual business.

S E C T.

S E C T. III.

Medical News.

WE are sorry that it has not been, before this, in our power to fulfil our promise of giving some account of the illustrious Dr. Haller. The many panegyrics on this eminent man, which have lately been delivered and published at almost every remarkable feat of medical literature in Europe, now afford us ample materials for a very full and particular account. But by the limits of our publication, we are necessarily restrained within very narrow bounds. And we can therefore propose to present our reader with a very general account only of the most remarkable particulars.

Albert von Haller was born at Bern, on the 16th of October, 1708. He was the son of an advocate, of considerable eminence in his profession. His father had a numerous family, and Albert was the youngest of five sons. From the first period of his education, he shewed a very great genius for literature of every kind; and to forward the progress of his studies, his father took into his family a private tutor, named Abraham Baillod. How far the rigid severity of this pedagogue contributed to the rapid improvement of his pupil, may, perhaps, be a question. But such was the discipline he exerted, that the accidental sight of him, at any future period of life, excited in Haller very great uneasiness, and renewed all his former terrors. It is, however, probable, that if any circumstance, besides uncommon natural genius, tended to forward his acquisition of knowledge, he was no less indebted to an original delicacy of constitution than to the severity of his teacher. As it was, perhaps, from this circumstance that he had little relish for the common amusements of other children; and in these he indulged himself very little in them.

But

But to whatever cause it is to be attributed, according to the accounts which are given us, the progress of his studies, at the earliest periods of life, was rapid almost beyond belief. When other children are beginning only to read, he was studying Bayle and Moreri; and at nine years of age he was able to translate Greek, and was beginning the study of Hebrew. Not long after this, however, the course of his education was somewhat interrupted by the death of his father; an event which happened when he was in the thirteenth year of his age. After this he was sent to the public school at Bern, where he exhibited many specimens of early and uncommon genius. He was distinguished for his knowledge in the Greek and Latin languages; but he was chiefly remarkable for his poetical genius: and his essays of this kind, which were published in the German language, were read and admired throughout the whole empire.

Having made this proficiency in the preliminary branches of education, he was now fully qualified to enter on the study of that profession, for the practice of which his future life was intended. And in the sixteenth year

of his age, he began the study of medicine at Tubingen, under those eminent teachers Duvernoy and Camerarius. The commencement of his medical studies was marked by an event characteristic of those industrious exertions by which he was afterwards distinguished. Determined, with unremitting industry, to dedicate his whole time to the prosecution of a study which he hoped would render him useful to mankind, he became a fugitive from the Muses, and committed to the flames all those little poetical essays which were then his principal, or rather his only amusement.

He continued engaged in the study of medicine at Tubingen for the space of two years, when the great reputation of the justly celebrated Boerhaave drew him to Leyden. Nor was this distinguished teacher the only man, from whose superior abilities, he had there an opportunity of profiting. Ruysch was still alive, and Albinus was rising into fame. Animated by such examples, it is not to be imagined that his assiduity would be relaxed. There he spent all the day, and the greatest part of the night, in the most intense study. And the proficiency which he made, gained him

him univerfal esteem both from his teachers and fellow-ftudents.

From Holland, in the year 1727, he came to England. Here, however, his ftay was but fhort, and it was rather his intention to vifit the illuftrious men of that period than to profecute his ftudies at London. He formed connexions with fome of the moft eminent of them. He was honoured with the friendship of Douglas and Chefelden, and he met with a reception proportioned to his merit from Sir Hans Sloane, prefident of the Royal Society. After his vifit to Britain, he went to France; there, under thofe eminent mafters, Winflow and Le Dran, with the latter of whom he refided during his ftay in Paris, he had opportunities of profecuting anatomy, which he had not before enjoyed. But the zeal of our young anatomift was greater than the prejudices of the people at that period, even in the enlightened city of Paris, could admit of. An information being lodged againft him to the police for diffecting dead bodies, he was obliged to cut fhort his anatomical inveftigations by a precipitate retreat. Still, however, intent on the farther profecution of his ftudies,

he went to Basil, where he became a pupil to the celebrated Bernouli.

Thus improved and instructed by the lectures of the most distinguished teachers of that period, by uncommon natural abilities, and by unremitting industry, he returned to the place of his nativity in the 26th year of his age. And not long after this he offered himself a candidate, first, for the office of physician to an hospital, and afterwards for a professorship. But neither the character which he had, before he left his native country, nor the fame which he had acquired and supported while abroad, were sufficient to combat the interest opposed to him. He was disappointed in both. And it was even with difficulty, that he obtained in the following year, the appointment of keeper of a publick library at Bern, an office, the exercise of which, was, indeed, by no means suited to his great abilities. But it was the more agreeable to him, as it afforded him an opportunity for that extensive reading by which he has been so justly distinguished.

The neglect of his merit which marked his first outset, neither diminished his ardour for
medi-

medical pursuits, nor detracted from his reputation; either at home or abroad. And soon after he was nominated a professor in the university of Goettingen, by our late gracious sovereign George II. The duties of this important office, he discharged with no less honour to himself, than advantage to the public, for the space of seventeen years. And it afforded him an ample field for the exertion of those great talents which he possessed. Extensively acquainted with the sentiments of others respecting the œconomy of the human body, struck with the diversity of opinions which they held, and sensible that the only means of investigating truth was by careful and candid experiment, he undertook the arduous task of exploring the phænomena of human nature from the original source. In these pursuits he was no less industrious than successful, and there was hardly any function of the body on which his experiments did not reflect either a new or a stronger light. Nor was it long necessary for him, in this arduous undertaking to labour alone. The example of the preceptor inspired his pupils with the spirit of industrious exertion. Zinn, Zimmerman, Caldani, and many others, animated by a generous emula-

emulation, laboured with indefatigable industry to prosecute and to perfect the discoveries of their great master. And the mutual exertion of the teacher and his students, not only tended to forward the progress of medical science, but placed the philosophy of the human body on a more sure, and an almost entirely new basis.

But the labours of Dr. Haller, during his residence at Goettingen, were, by no means confined to any one department of science. He was not more anxious to be an improver himself, than to instigate others to similar pursuits. And the intimacy which subsisted between him and Baron de Munchausen, the first minister in Hanover, who was the friend and patron of his merit, enabled him to set on foot institutions admirably calculated for this purpose. To him, the Anatomical Theatre, the School of Midwifery, the Chirurgical Society, and the Royal Academy of Sciences at Goettingen, owe their origin. Such distinguished merit could not fail to meet with a suitable reward from the sovereign under whose protection he then taught. The king of Great Britain not only honoured him with every mark of attention which he himself could bestow, but

but procured him also letters of nobility from the Emperor.

The ripened fruits of that genius and industry which were at first neglected, now drew the attention of almost every Mæcenæ in Europe. On the death of Dillenius, he had an offer of the professorship of botany at Oxford; the states of Holland invited him to the chair of the younger Albinus; the king of Prussia was anxious that he should be the successor of Mau-pertuis at Berlin. Marshal Keith wrote to him in the name of his sovereign, offering him the chancellorship of the university of Halle, vacant by the death of the celebrated Wolff. Count Orlov invited him to Russia, in the name his mistress the empress, offering him a distinguished place at St. Petersburg. The king of Sweden conferred on him an unsolicited honour by raising him to the rank of knighthood of the order of the polar star; and the emperor of Germany did him the honour of a personal visit, during which, he thought it no degradation of his character, to pass some time with him, in the most familiar conversation.

Thus honoured by sovereigns, revered by men of literature, and esteemed by all Europe,

rope, he had it in his power to have held the highest rank in the republic of letters. Yet declining all the tempting offers which were made to him, he continued at Goettingen anxiously endeavouring to extend the rising fame of that medical school. But after seventeen years residence in that university, an ill state of health rendering him less fit for the duties of the important office, which he held, he solicited and obtained permission from the regency of Hanover to return to his native city of Bern. His fellow-citizens, who might at first have fixed him among themselves, with no less honour than advantage to their city, were now as sensible as others of his superior merit. A pension was settled upon him for life, and he was nominated at different times to fill the most important offices in the state. These occupations, however, did not diminish his ardour for useful improvements. He was the first president, as well as the greatest promoter of the Oeconomical Society at Bern; and he may be considered as the father and founder of the Orphan-Hospital of that city. Declining health, however, restrained his exertions in the more active scenes of life, and for many years he was confined entirely

entirely to his own house. Even this, however, could not put a period to his utility ; for with indefatigable industry he continued his favourite employment of writing till within a few days of his death, which happened in the 70th year of his age, on the 12th of December 1777.

After what has been said, to sum up his character would be superfluous ; to enumerate his improvements or his writings would much exceed the limits of our publication. It is sufficient to observe, that those extensive works, his *Elementa Physiologiæ* and *Bibliotheca Medicinæ*, will afford, to latest posterity, undeniable proofs of his indefatigable industry, penetrating genius, and solid judgment. But he was no less distinguished as a philosopher, than beloved as a man ; and he was not more eminent for his improvement in every department of medical science, than for his piety to God, and benevolence to all mankind.

* * * * *

That admirable institution, which has long subsisted at Paris under the title of *La Société Libre d'Emulation*, the objects of whose inquiries have been so much directed to public utility,

utility, has proposed a prize question for the present year, the proper solution of which must be considered as of the utmost importance. In their programme they observe, that numerous and melancholy instances of the deliterious effects resulting from the use of kitchen utensils, yielding matters of a poisonous quality, had justly excited the attention, not only of physicians, but of the public in general. And although those of copper and lead be unquestionably the most dangerous, yet it is universally allowed, that those also of pewter, iron, and even earthen ware, are very far from being free from inconveniences. Considering, therefore, improvements on this subject as well meriting attention, they have allotted the sum of nine hundred livres, as an encouragement to inquiries and trials with regard to it. The question is proposed in the following terms.

Trouver une matiere, ou une composition quelconque, avec laquelle on puisse fabriquer des ustensiles de cuisine, capables de soutenir tres-longtems, la plus forte ebullition, les alternatives subites du froid, et de la plus grande chaleur, qui n'ayent aucun des inconveniens du cuivre, du plomb, des etamages, convertes ou vernis

verniss ordinaires, et qui soient aussi solides et moins chers, s'il est possible, que les ustensiles d'usage.

Memoirs on this subject are desired to be directed, au Bureau Royal de Correspondance generale, rue des Deux Portes. S. Sauveur, a Paris.

* * * * *

The many extraordinary cures which have of late been performed, by means of medicated vapour baths, in London and Dublin, must necessarily suggest to the attentive practitioner, the idea of furnishing other places also with this useful and important remedy, in some of the most obstinate diseases. It is with particular pleasure, therefore, we learn, that such baths are now erecting in different places. Dr. Hunter, of York, in conjunction with Messrs. Garencieres and Whaley, apothecaries in that city, has lately fitted up there, at a very considerable expence, baths, on a construction similar to those of Dr. Kelly in the neighbourhood of London. These are now completed, and open to patients at a moderate rate, from eight in the morning till ten at night. And it is to be hoped that the gentlemen who have
carried

carried this undertaking into execution, will meet with a proper return for having provided a remedy, no less pleasing than efficacious, for the numerous diseases which derive their origin from obstructed perspiration and confined humours.

But in smaller towns, all the returns which could reasonably be expected from medicated baths, would be by no means sufficient for defraying the expence of such constructions as those at London and York. It is therefore much to be wished, that proper trials were made of more simple contrivances for this purpose. From these, there is reason to presume, that many, at least, of the benefits of this mode of cure might be obtained.

An ingenious physician, who has the charge of a county hospital in England, and whose attention to every thing that can improve his profession is highly worthy of imitation, in a letter to Dr. Duncan, informs him, that he has lately employed medicated vapours with his patients, by means of a common still and vapour-bath chair, connected by a proper tube; and that, in some instances, this practice has been attended with great success. We hope,
in

in some future number, to be able to give a more full account of this practice. Meanwhile, it may not be improper to observe, that the application of medicated vapours in this way, can be tried any where, at a very trifling expence.

* * * * *

It is now upwards of a year since we mentioned that a third edition of Dr. Cullen's *Synopsis Nosologiæ Methodicæ* was in the press at Edinburgh; and that this work, which had formerly been contained in one volume octavo, was now to be so far enlarged, that it would extend to two. But, after the first of these volumes had been printed off, the learned author was induced to suspend this work for some time. He has now, however, again resumed it; and it is to be hoped that the whole will soon be ready for publication.

* * * * *

Dr. Charles Webster, of Edinburgh, has been, for some time, engaged in preparing for publication, a selection of the best inaugural dissertations on practical subjects, and arranging them in such a manner as to form one connected system. This work is now in the press, and is entitled, *Systema Medicinæ*
 Vol. VI. No. 24. I i Pra-

Praxeos, complectens Differtationes Argumenti Medico-Practici Selectiores. It is intended to exhibit to the public not so much the labours of the students whose names the dissertations bear, as to give a view of the doctrines respecting particular diseases, and of the method of cure, delivered by the most eminent teachers of the practice of medicine at Edinburgh, particularly those of the late Drs. Rutherford and Gregory, a proper account of whose practice was never published by themselves; and of Drs. Cullen and Duncan, both of whom, in the lectures which they at present deliver, recommend many modes of treatment in particular diseases, which they consider as improvements, and which never have appeared in print, unless in the form of inaugural dissertations by their pupils. These, however, are seldom exposed to sale, and very rarely read beyond the precincts of the university where they are published. The present work, therefore, will, probably, furnish a view of modern practice, not inferior to any one which has of late appeared.

Dr.

* * * * *

Dr. Home has, for several years, been preparing for publication the result of his observation and experience at the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh, where he has, every winter, in conjunction with Dr. Gregory, the care of the clinical patients. This work is now in the press, and is entitled, *Clinical Experiments, Histories; and Dissections*. Besides containing accurate histories of the cases of particular patients, a distinct view of the treatment in each, and the principal observations which were delivered in lecture; it exhibits also a faithful account of trials which have been made with the greatest part of the new remedies lately introduced into practice; and a minute detail of the effects which have been observed to result from them.

* * * * *

A work is at present in the press at Edinburgh, by Dr. Gregory, entitled, *Conspectus Medicinæ Theoreticæ; in Usum Academicum*. In this publication, which is intended principally, as a text-book for his lectures, the physiology and general pathology are conjoined. Thus in treating of any function, as for exam-

ple respiration, he considers the manner in which it is performed, its uses, its varieties, as voice, speech, weeping, laughing, &c. its disorders, as cough, sneezing, and dyspnœa, of various kinds, their causes, effects, and general principles of cure, whether radical or palliative.

* * * * *

A new edition of Mr. Bell's treatise on the Theory and Management of Ulcers, of which an analysis was given in a former number of this work, is in the press, and will soon be published. In this edition, the author has made several alterations, and not a few additions, which must encrease considerably the value of a work, which has already deservedly met with a very favourable reception from the public.

S E C T.

S E C T. IV.

List of New Books.

Isaaci Newtoni opera quæ extant omnia,
commentariis illustrabat Samuel Horsley,
LL. D. R. S. S. &c. 4to. London.

The Medical Register for the year 1779,
8vo. London.

Descriptions and figures of petrifications,
found in the quarries, gravel-pits, &c. near
Bath. By John Walcott, Esq. 8vo. London.

Cases and remarks in surgery, to which is
subjoined an appendix, containing the method
of curing the bronchocele in Coventry. By B.
Wilmer, Surgeon. 8vo. London.

A medical commentary on fixed air, by
Mathew Dobson, M. D. F. R. S. 8vo. Lon-
don.

Description of an engine for dividing straight lines on mathematical instruments, by J. Ramsden. 4to. London.

Animadversiones de natura hydropis ejusque curatione; auctore Francisco Milman, M. D. 8vo. London.

A synopsis of a course of lectures on anatomy and surgery, by Magnus Falconer, 8vo. London.

Experiments and observations on animal heat, and the inflammation of combustible bodies; being an attempt to resolve these phenomena into a general law of nature. By Adair Crawford, M. A. 8vo. London.

Systematic elements of the theory and practice of surgery, by John Aitken, Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons, Member of the Medical Society, and Lecturer on Surgical Anatomy and Pharmaceutic Chemistry in Edinburgh. 8vo. Edinburgh,

Hermanni Boerhaave epistolæ ad Joan Bafandum, medicum Cæsareum. 8vo. Vindobonæ.

Succincta medicorum Hungariæ et Transylvaniæ Biographia, excerpta ex adversariis
Steph,

Steph. Wizpremi, M. D. Civit. Debregen.
Phip. 2 vols. 8vo. Vienna.

Synopsis Fontium Austriæ; provinciarum-
que subditarum a J — C —, M. D. 8vo.
Vienna.

Caroli Casp. Siebold historia lithotomiæ in
eodem homine bis factæ cum ejus restitutione.
8vo. Wurgburgh.

Differtatio Physica de aere, ejusque specie-
bus, præcipue de aere fixo lapidis calcarei. 4to.
Zurich.

Materia Medica e regno vegetabili sistens
simplicia officinalia pariter atque culinaria se-
cundum systema sexuale ex autopsia et experi-
entia fideliter digessit Petrus Jonas Bergius,
M. D. et Hist. Nat. et Pharm. Prof. Stock.
&c. II^{bus} tom. 8vo. Stockholmia.

Apparatus medicaminum tam supplicium
quam præparatorum & compositorum in pra-
xeos adjumentum consideratus. Auctore Jo.
Andrea Murray, M. D. & Bot. in Acad. Reg.
Gotting. Prof. Pub. Ord. &c. Vol. I^{um} et
II^{um}. 8vo. Gottingæ.

Collection complete des œuvres de Charles
Bonnet. Vol. I. II. III. 4to. Neufchatel.

Epoques raisonnées sur la vie d'Albert von Haller. 8vo. Leipsic.

La Médecine-pratique de Londres, ouvrage dans lequel on a exposé la définition & les symptômes des maladies avec la méthode actuelle de les guérir, traduit sur la seconde édition, revu, publié, & enrichi de notes. Par M. J. F. de Villiers, docteur regent de la faculté de médecine de Paris. 8vo. Paris.

Traité sur le scorbut, traduit du Latin de M. Lemeilleur, Med. de Montpellier. Par M. Giraud, Med. de Besançon. 8vo. Paris.

Expériences propres à faire connoître que l'alkali volatil fluor est le remède le plus efficace dans les asphyxies ; avec des remarques sur les effets avantageux qu'il produit dans la morsure de la vipère, dans la rage, &c. Par M. Sage. 12mo. Paris.

Lettre à M. S——, capitaine de cavalerie sur l'institution des sourds & muets. Par M. l'Abbé Deschamps, chapelain de l'Eglise d'Orléans. 12mo. Paris.

Physique du corps humain, ou physiologie moderne, avec des remarques, sur la santé, la nature, la cause, et le traitement des maladies, à l'usage des étudiants en chirurgie et en médecine.

COMMENTAIRES. 469

cine. Par M. l'Abbé Sauri, docteur en médecine & correspondant de l'academie royale des sciences de Montpellier. 2 tomes. 8vo. Paris.

Discours public pour la rentrée des ecoles de chirurgie de la ville de Lyon, prononcé par M. Graffot, professeur royal en matiere medico-chirurgicale. 4to. Paris.

Lettres de M. Alexandre Volta, noble patricien de Come et membre du grand conseil, professeur royal de physique experimentale, &c. sur l'air inflammable des marais, auxquelles on a ajouté trois lettres du même auteur, tirées du journal de Milan.. 8vo. Strasbourg.

Recherches sur les maladies chroniques, particulièrement sur les hydropisies, & sur les moyens de les guerir, par M. Bacher, docteur regent de la faculté de medecine de Paris. 8vo. Paris.

Remarques sur cette espèce de paralysie des extremités inferieures, que l'on trouve souvent accompagnée de la courbure de l'épine du dos, qui est supposée en être la cause : avec la methode de la guerir : suivie de plusieurs observations sur la necessité et les avantages de l'amputation dans certaines circonstances. Par
M. Per-

M. Percival Pott, de la Societé royale de Londres & chirurgien de l'hôpital de S. Bartholemi, ouvrage traduit de l'Anglois avec des observations, & des additions. Par M. Beerenbroek, docteur en médecine, associé au collège royal des medecins, & a la société royale de médecine d'Edimbourg. 8vo. Bruxelles,

Differtationes medicæ inaugurales quas ex auctoritate reverendi admodum viri Gulielmi Robertson, S. S. T. P. Academiae Edinburgensæ præfecti, nec non amplissimi senatus academici consensu & nobilissimæ facultatis medicæ decreto, pro gradu doctoratus, summisque in medicina honoribus ac privilegiis, rite ac legitime consequendis, cruditorum examini subjecerunt.

Joannes Bell, Britannus, de febre maligna quæ anno 1779, legionem de Buccleugh afflixit.

Georgius Brown, Hibernus, de usu corticis Peruviani in febribus intermittentibus.

Josephus Clarke, Hibernus, de putredine in typho coercenda.

Gulielmus Cleghorn, Britannus, de igne.

Joannes Hallilay, Anglo-Britannus, de phthisi pulmonali.

COMMENTARIES, 471

Robertus Lovell, e insula Barbada, de hepate.

Patricius Plunket, Hibernus, de aere mephitico.

Car. Gul. Quin, Hibernus, de hydrocephalo interno.

Thomas Shadwell, Hibernus, de phthisi pulmonali.

Edmundus Simpson, Anglus, de oculo humano.

Georgius-Hoggart Toulmin, Anglo-Britannus, de cynanche tonsillari.

Thomas Westrop, Hibernus, de scrophula.

CON-

C O N T E N T S.

B O O K S.

<i>Ebeling Jo. Theod. Dissertatio Medica inauguralis de Quassia & Lichene Islandico</i>	367
<i>Hey, William, F. R. S. Observations on the Blood</i>	376
<i>Akerman, Dr. John, Treatise on the Knowledge and Cure of the Trismus, or Locked Jaw</i>	386
<i>Crawford, Adair, A. M. Experiments and Obser- vations on Animal Heat, and the Inflammation of combustible Bodies</i>	399
<i>Dumonceau, M. Observations sur le Contre-poison du Sublime Corrosif</i>	414
<i>Boyer, M. Traitement d'une Affection soporeuse</i>	418

Medical Observations.

<i>The History of a Case of Hydrocephalus, by Dr. Robert Butler Remmett, Physician at Plymouth</i>	422
<i>The History of a singular Case of Rabies Canina, terminating favourably, by the late James Tilton, M. D. of Dover County, on the Delaware</i>	429
<i>The History of a Case of Ascites, remarkable for the Quantity of Water drawn off by Tapping. By Dr. William Scott, Physician at Haverick</i>	440
2	The

C O N T E N T S.

<i>The History of an uncommon Case in Midwifery, by Mr. William Speer, of Ardee, County of Lowth, Ireland</i>	443
---	-----

Medical News.

<i>Account of the Life of Dr. Albert von Haller</i>	447
<i>Account of the Prize Question proposed by the So- cieté Libre d' Emulation of Paris</i>	457
<i>Account of the Medicated Vapour Baths opened at York</i>	459
<i>Proposal for constructing medicated Vapour Baths, by Means of a common Still</i>	460
<i>New Edition of Dr. Cullen's Synopsis Nosologiæ Methodicæ</i>	461
<i>Dr. Webster's Systema Medicinæ Praxeos, complec- tens Dissertationes Argumenti Medico-Practici selectiores</i>	461
<i>Dr. Home's Clinical Cases, Observations, and Ex- periments,</i>	463
<i>Dr. Gregory's Conspectus Medicinæ Theoreticæ</i> <i>ibid.</i>	
<i>New Edition of Mr. Bell's Treatise on the Theory and Management of Ulcers</i>	464
<i>List of New Books</i>	465

INDEX.

I N D E X.

A.

	Page
A BILGAARD, Dr. electrical experiments on different animals	252
Absolute heat of different bodies compared	403
Acids, experiments shewing their effects on urinary calculi	60
Acute diseases, prognostics in	7
Aitken, Mr. Account of his systematic elements of surgery	350
Akerman, Dr. Jo. dissertation on the trismus	368
Alix, Dr. chirurgical observations, I. II	154
— — chirurgical observations, fascic. III. and IV.	295
Alkali, its influence as preventing the poisonous effects of corrosive sublimate	416
Alkaline salts of advantage as counteracting the effects of mineral poisons	328
Amputation performed at the upper articulation of the thigh	373
— — — observations on the necessity of it in certain cases	323
Angina gangrenosa, its diagnostic symptoms contrasted with those of the scarlatina anginosa	286
— — — maligna trachealis, account of	277
— — — diagnostics between this and the spasmodic and inflammatory species of the disease	ibid.
Animals killed by electrical shocks through the head, and recovered by shocks through the heart	253
Animal heat, new hypothesis concerning the cause of, by Dr. Duncan	99
— — — observations on	399
— — — Mr. Crawford's hypothesis concerning its production	408
Antipestilential powder, its influence in destroying the seeds of infection at Moscow	170
Arnot, Hugo, Esq. history of Edinburgh	172
Ascites, case of, remarkable for the quantity of water	440
Aaskow,	

I N D E X.

	Page
Aaskow, Dr. account of a petechial fever from putrid salt fish	248
Affa foetida recommended in angina maligna trachealis	277
Athill, Dr. Samuel, observations on cold-bathing	62

B.

Bell, Mr. Andrew, his edition of the plates of Albinus	110
Blancherie, Mr. his institution for general correspondence	232
Bleeding, condemned in the ulcerous sore throat	272
Blitters, good effects from, in cases of spitting of blood	171
——— impropriety of the frequent use of them in acute diacates	262
Blood, observations on	377
——— spitting of, cured by blisters	173
——— contains more absolute heat than the substances of which it is formed	408
Blood, evidence that it absorbs heat from the air in respiration	406
——— buffy coat of, a foundation of prognosis	15
Blood-letting, advantages from it in rabies	433
——— condemned in scarlatina anginosa	289
Breasts, bad consequences from drawing them	260
Boiling the teeth, recommended for preventing the progress of caries	184
Bone dissolved by extravasated blood	75
Botanical garden at Edinburgh, account of	176
Boyer, M. account of the case of a comatose affection cured by means of volatile alkali fluor	418
Buffon, Mr. his epoques de la nature	92

C.

Calculus of the bladder, experiments with	51
Camper, Dr. experiments respecting the section of the lymphitis pubis	43
Cancer, use of verrucæ equinæ in	97
Cantharides, observations on the volatile salt of	151
Caustic	

I N D E X.

	Page
Cautic alkali, experiments on its power of dissolving calculi	53
Clarke, Dr. history of an obstructed secretion of urine	204
Coffee, effects in curing head-ach	35
Cold bathing, phenomena exhibited during the course of it	63
——— general indications of cure, which it is fitted to fulfil	67
——— general effects from which it may prove hurtful	68
Coma, cured by the volatile alkali fluor	418
Crawford, Mr. Adair, observations on animal heat	399
Cretaceous sediment of the urine, observations on	17
Critical days, observations on their influence	13
Crutwell, Mr. advice to lying-in women	258
Curvature of the spine removed by issues	321

D.

Darwin, Mr. Charles, monumental inscription to his memory	227
Decoction of tobacco used with success as an injection	332
Discharge of blood from the uterus, observations on	21
Dobson, Dr. method of treating hydrocephalus by mercury	219
Dover's powder, employed with success in the cure of an obstinate quartan	353
Dropsy of the joints, observations on	132
Dugud, Leslie, Dr. philosophical inquiry concerning animal heat	102
Dumonceau, M. observations on the means of counter-acting the poison of corrosive sublimate	414
Duncan, Dr. account of the method of treating rachitis in the Highlands of Scotland	95
——— his hypothesis concerning the cause of animal heat	99
——— medical cases selected from the records of the Edinburgh dispensary	300
——— plan of medical lectures	453

E.

I N D E X.

E.	Page
Earthquake, explanation of the phænomena of	411
Ebeling, Dr. Jo. his treatise on quassia	361
——— observations on the lichen Islandicus	371
Edinburgh, history of	172
——— dispensary, medical cases selected from its records	300
Electricity, proposed as a means of recovery from the morbid effects of lightning	255
Emetics, their use in angina maligna trachealis	277
Epilepsy, symptoms by which it may be distinguished from the affections most nearly resembling it	302
Evans, Mr. history of a case of retroverted uterus	215
——— history of an obstinate affection of the bowels, cured by a decoction of tobacco	332

F.

Farr, Dr. Samuel, translation of the epidemics of Hippocrates	109
Fern root, employed with success for the expulsion of a tænia	307
Fixed air, experiments on its effects on urinary calculi	58
Flatulence from a præternatural condition of the larynx	214
Fowler, Dr. successful treatment of the morbid effects of lightning	194

G.

Gluten of the blood, question whether the appearances which take place in inflammation are to be ascribed to an encrease of quantity, or change of quality	300
Gonorrhœa, inquiry whether it depends on the same infection with syphilis	311
——— cured by the powder of gratiola	150
Gratiola, use, in cases of melancholia	141
Gregory, Dr. account of his conspectus medicinæ theoreticæ	463
Guilbrand, Dr. account of a paralysis of the arm succeeding gonorrhœa	256
VOL. VI. No. 24.	Gul-

I N D E X.

	Page
Gulbrand, Jo. Wilh, observations on discharges of blood from the uterus	21
Gum-boils, account of the method of treating them	185

H.

Haffner, Mr. George, observations on dropsy of the joints	132
Hall, Mr. Charles, account of a new species of palsy	71
Haller, Dr. Albert, account of his life	447
Head-ach, cured by coffee	35
Hedge hyssop, a cure for madness	144
Hey, Mr. William, observations on the blood	377
Hippocrates, acquainted with the ulcerous sore throat	267
Houlston, Dr. observations on mineral poisons	325
Home, Dr. Francis, account of his medical cases and experiments	463
Hope, Dr. elected a member of the Harlem Society	388
Hunter, Mr. John, treatise on the diseases of the teeth	180
Hydrocephalus, water of, successfully evacuated by puncture	423

I.

Jackson, Dr. history of a singular affection of respira- tion	208
Inflammation of combustible bodies, observations on	399
Intermittent pulse, as the foundation of prognosis	9
Johnson, Dr. treatise on the malignant angina	267
Issues, a cure for curvature of the spine	321

K.

Kerr, Mr. William, account of amputating the thigh at the upper articulation	336
Kitchen utensils, prize question respecting the improve- ment of	458
Kostrzewski, Mr. dissertation on the gratiola	141

L.

I N D E X.

	Page
L.	
Labium pudendi, enlargement of, during delivery	86
Languor and imbecility, indicate the use of blisters	268
Lanphier, Dr. dissertation on calculus	50
Larynx, thickening of its membranes, a cause of difficult respiration	212
Leith, Dr. Charles, account of the success of the flow-ers of zinc against a convulsive cough	343
Leprosy hospital, for the cure of	173
Le Roy, Dr. Alphonse, observations on the section of the symphysis pubis	39
----- Pronostic dans les maladies aiguës	7
Lichen Islandicus, experiments with	373
----- recommended in consumptions	375
Lightning, morbid effects of, successfully removed	194
Lime-water, experiments respecting its effects on calculi	56
Lochial flux, profuse discharge of	28
Locked jaw, treatise on	386
Lumîden, Mr. Andrew, his account of Mr. Buffon's epoques de la nature	91
Lungs, worms discharged from	37

M.

M ^r Bride, Dr. death of	235
Maitland, Dr. history of an uncommon case in delivery	85
Malignant angina, account of	267
Medicated vapour-baths, means of constructing them by a common-still	460
Medical Register, account of	110
----- society of Edinburgh, charter from the crown	106
----- account of their intended publication	234
----- of Copenhagen, their transactions	247
Menstrual flux, observations on	21
Menstruation, remarkable circumstance respecting it	23
Mercury, cure of hydrocephalus internus by it	219
Marten's, Dr. observations on the plague and putrid fevers	262

I N D E X.

	Page
Mild alkali, experiments on its power of dissolving calculi	53
Monro, Dr. Alexander, account of his discoveries respecting the nerves	111

N.

Nitre, encreases the putrid symptoms of the malignant angina	272
--	-----

O.

Odier, Dr. observations on the use of opium in intermittents	352
--	-----

P.

Palsy of the lower limbs, accompanying curvature of the spine, account of	318
Paralysis of the arm from gonorrhœa	256
—— of the extremities from the worms in the vesica urinaria	297
Parry, Dr. valedictory address to the medical society of Edinburgh	105
Pemphigus major, history of	79
Percival, Dr. Thomas, experimental essays	31
—— — observations on the use of mercury in hydrocephalus internus	224
Peruvian bark, its great efficacy in malignant angina	274
—— — prejudicial in scarlatina anginosa	291
Petechial fever, from the effluvia of putrid salt fish	248
Pilulæ cæruleæ, employed with success in the cure of epilepsy	304
Plague of Moscow, account of	162
Pott, Percival, remarks on the palsy of the lower limbs	318
Prize questions proposed by the Royal Society of Medicine at Paris	348
Probst, Mr. dissertation on the salt of cantharides	157
Prochaska-Georgius, dissertation on the urine	17
Puncture for the discharge of water, performed with advantage in hydrocephalus	424

Purcell,

I N D E X.

	Page
Purcell, Dr. proposal of the section of the symphysis pubis, in cases of retroverted uterus	351

Q.

Quassia, dissertation on	437
—— comparative trial of its bitterness with that of some other vegetables	368
—— trials of it with different menstrua	369
—— trial of its antiseptic power	370

R.

Rabies canina, case of, terminating favourably	429
Remmett, Dr. Robert, history of a case of hydrocephalus	422
Respiration, singular affection of, described	208
Royal society of medicine at Paris, account of their memoirs	346
Rutherford, Dr. death of	236

S.

Salt of wormwood, its effects as counteracting corrosive sublimates	416
Scarlet-fever and fore-throat, account of	279
—— diagnosis between it and the ulcerated fore throat	285
Scott, Dr. William, case of ascites	440
Sibbern, Dr. account of the expulsion of a tænia by powder of tin	287
Sigault, Mr. account of his operation of the section of the symphysis pubis	39
Simmons, Dr. answers to his remarks on the use of mercury in hydrocephalus internus	224
Skate-oil, use of, in the cure of rachitis	95
Societatis Medicæ Hafniensis Collectanea	247

Society

I N D E X.

	Page
Society of emulation at Paris, account of their prize question, respecting the improvement of kitchen utensils	439
Speer, Mr. William, uncommon case in midwifery	4
Steidle, John, observations on a rupture of the uterus	11
Stevens, Dr. gains the prize medal at Edinburgh for his experiments on the red colour of the blood	21
Stewart, Dr. David, history of a case of pemphigus major	71
Swan, Dr. history of a case of retroverted uterus	217
Symphysis pubis, observations on the section of	39
Syphilis, arguments brought to prove that it depends on an infectious matter different from that producing gonorrhœa	311

T.

Tania, expelled from the intestines by powder of tin	251
—— after thirty years continuance in the intestine, expelled by the use of fern powder	310
Teeth, treatise on the diseases of	180
Thomas, Mr. account of extravasated blood dissolving bone	75
Tilton, Dr. James, case of rabies canina	429
Tralles, Dr. Balth. Lud. observations on the use of blisters in acute diseases	262
Transplanting teeth, account of	190
Trifinus, dissertation on	386
—— tonic history of	390
—— ——— cure of	396

U.

Ulcerous fore throat, observations on	267
Urine, dissertation on	17
—— obstructed secretion of	204
—— discharge of, from the umbilicus	298
Uterine hæmorrhage, general causes of	25
—— ——— ——— indications of cure in	ibid.
Uterus, rupture of	123
—— retroverted, history of	213
Vapour-baths at York, account of	459
Vege-	

I N D E X.

	Page
Vegetable alkali, used with advantage as a diuretic in scarlatina anginosa	291
Verrucæ Equinæ, use in the cure of cancer	96
Vertebræ, compressing the medulla spinalis a cause of palsy	71
Volatile alkali fluor, its efficacy in the cure of coma	420
Volcanos, explanation of the phænomena of	411
Vomiting, the remedy of nature in scarlatina anginosa	290

W.

Water, great quantity drawn off in the case of ascites	442
Webster, Dr. account of his medicinæ praxeos systema	461
——— — letter to him concerning Mr. Buffon's his- tory of nature	94
——— — oration in praise of Dr. Haller	230
Withering, Dr. account of the scarlet fever and sore throat	279
Wine, its use in the malignant angina	274
Worms, discharged from the lungs	37

Y.

Yew-leaves, fatal effects off	33
-------------------------------	----

Z.

Zinc, flowers of, successfully used against convulsive coughs	343
--	-----